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## Hurricane Danielle Weakens to Tropical Storm

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## Aruba Int'l Golf Tourney announced

Aruba Tourism Authority Events Special Events Coordinator Amayra Boekhoudt presents the new logo / identity of Aruba to the media during the press conference for the Aruba International PRO-AM Golf Tournament at Tierra del Sol Golf Course & Country Club announcing the upcoming tournament this coming weekend.

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# ZERO COMMENT!



President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama leave The Sweet Live Cafe in Oak Bluffs, Mass., while the first family is vacationing on Martha's Vineyard, Monday, Aug. 23, 2010.

Associated Press

Read more on Page 3

## China's massive traffic jam could last for weeks

BEIJING (AP) — A massive traffic jam in north China that stretches for dozens of miles and hit its 10-day mark on Tuesday stems from road construction in Beijing that won't be finished until the middle of next month, an official said.

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# US sheriffs struggle with high extradition costs



**FILE** - This undated file photo released by the Arlington, Va., County Police Department shows Elias Abuelazam. The Israeli citizen suspected in a three-state stabbing spree is due in court in Atlanta for an extradition hearing after he was arrested at the airport before flying out of the country.

(AP Photo/Arlington County Police Department, File)

By GREG BLUESTEIN,  
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — Authorities in Michigan's Genesee County were jubilant when Atlanta police arrested a suspect in a

spate of serial stabbings that left five people dead. They weren't so thrilled about picking up the tab to get him back. Extradition has long been a sore spot for sheriffs who contend state and federal authorities should pay more of the costs to return fugitives. Now economic troubles and budget deficits are forcing prosecutors and sheriffs to make tough decisions about who will face prosecution and who will remain free.

Returning the stabbing suspect, Elias Abuelazam, to Michigan to face multiple murder charges is expected to cost between \$2,000 and \$10,000 at a time when Genesee County has an \$18 million budget deficit.

"We have to juggle with limited resources," said Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton. "I have to do more with less, but so does just about everybody. We will do the job whether we get the extra help or not." Officials said there was no question

it was worth the cost in the case of Abuelazam, who is suspected in a string of 18 attacks in Michigan, Ohio and Virginia. He is expected to be extradited this week after his Aug. 11 arrest at Atlanta's airport. But some authorities are now weighing the costs of extradition with the severity of the crime. Some lower-level offenders and suspects may not be extradited — which means they're set free.

John Morganelli, the district attorney of Pennsylvania's Northampton County, said detectives were once dispatched as far as California to pick up suspects in relatively minor crimes. He still extradites suspects in violent crimes, but he has drawn the line at lower-level misdemeanors such as probation violation or failure to pay fines. "It doesn't make sense to spend more tax dollars to collect tax dollars that are owed," he said. "If it's a misdemeanor charge, a case where no great public

harm is involved, we just can't go." The risk is undermining the justice system when the resources don't exist to pursue all criminal offenders.

"County sheriffs are suffering immensely with extradition costs. And this isn't something to be taken lightly," said Aaron Kennard, the executive director of the National Sheriffs' Association. "If we don't extradite them, they never pay for the crime. If we don't go get them, we're thumbing our nose at the judicial system." It's hard to quantify how many state or county prisoners are extradited each year from one jurisdiction to another. Federal authorities and the sheriffs association do not track the data, and several departments only ventured a rough guess. But Kennard said even small sheriffs' offices could extradite hundreds of people each year, while larger jurisdictions often ship thousands. Each journey can be costly. Sheriff's offices or

prosecutors often send two or three deputies or detectives to pick up suspects. With airfare, lodging and board, shipping a suspect hundreds of miles can cost \$4,000 to \$5,000. Some jurisdictions hire contractors that charge a per-mile fee. It's typically up to prosecuting agencies to foot the tab to extradite prisoners, but in some cases their counterparts will chip in or offer other help because they are eager to unload suspects — and the daily costs of housing them. Kennard said some sheriffs are asking their counterparts to ship the prisoner halfway to split costs. His organization is also trying to work out an arrangement with the U.S. Marshals Service to transport more county prisoners along with federal suspects. Federal authorities have a national program that seeks to help counties ship some prisoners at a "minimal cost," said Bill Sorukas, a chief inspector with the U.S. Marshals. □



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# Voices rise in favor of moving proposed NY mosque



Abdul Malik, center, an American Muslim from Philadelphia, and Matt Sky, right, a Web developer from Manhattan, N.Y., stand in front of a proposed site for an Islamic cultural center as they explain their support for its construction to passers-by in New York, Monday, Aug. 23, 2010. 'I am mad that Muslims are being slandered,' said Malik, responding to opponents of the center concerned about its proximity to the World Trade Center site.

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

By CRISTIAN SALAZAR, Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — A powerful state politician joined with Gov. David Paterson on Tuesday in suggesting that Islamic leaders should move a proposed mosque farther from ground zero, saying the organizers should be more sensitive to opponents.

Organizers have the right to build the center at a building two blocks from ground zero but should be open to compromise, said New York Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, who represents the lower Manhattan district.

"In the spirit of living with others, they should be cognizant of the feelings of others and try to find a location that doesn't engender the deep feelings the currently exist about this site," Silver said.

Critics say the building is too close to where Islamic extremists destroyed the World Trade Center on 2001 and killed nearly 2,800 people. Supporters say religious freedom should be protected.

"I think the sponsors should take into very serious consideration the kind of turmoil that's been created and look to compromise,"

Silver said.

Paterson, who has expressed dismay over the heated arguments, was meeting Tuesday with New York Roman Catholic Archbishop Timothy Dolan to try to suggest an alternative.

The developer, meanwhile, was expected to attend a dinner Tuesday night hosted by New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who has spoken in support of the project. Bloomberg holds the dinner annually to observe Iftar, the daily meal in which Muslims break their fast during the holy month of Ramadan.

Paterson has yet to meet with anyone from the Cordoba Initiative, the project's organizer. Its co-founder, Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, is on a Mideast trip funded by the U.S. State Department. He alluded to the controversy at a dinner Sunday night for student leaders at the U.S. ambassador's residence in Manama, Bahrain.

"The fact we are getting this kind of attention is a sign of success," he said.

"It is my hope that people will understand more. ... This is something we are doing for our generation."

Rauf also thanked President Barack Obama, who has

said Muslims had the right to practice their religion and build the Islamic center in lower Manhattan. The president later said he wasn't endorsing the specifics of the plan.

"I'm grateful to President Obama for his support for the project," said Rauf.

The White House on Tuesday said that Obama would have no further comment on the issue and that the administration will not get involved in talks about relocating the facility. Republicans have vowed to make Obama's support of the project a campaign issue in this fall's midterm elections.

Rauf, who has rarely spoken publicly about the project, said that he was leery of the media and that it is portraying a negative image of Muslims to the West. He also said he doesn't like Muslims portraying a bad image of the West to the Muslim world.

In an interview published Monday with the Bahrain newspaper, Al Wasat, Rauf said he was trying to get Islamic scholars to agree on laws that will encourage Muslims to be "more effective members of their communities."

He said Muslims can remain faithful and be engaged in the affairs of the countries where they live.

"I see that every religious community faces challenges, but the real challenge lies in keeping true to the core values of the faith and how to express these values in a specific time and place," he was quoted as telling the newspaper.

He added that he wanted to see Muslims in the U.S. have "complete nationalism" and fulfill their rights and duties to the larger community. □

## WH: No further comment from Obama on NYC mosque

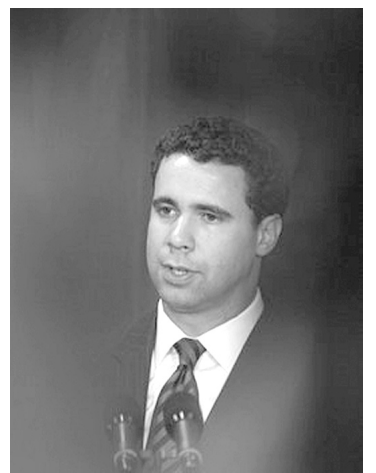
VINEYARD HAVEN, Mass.

— The White House says President Barack Obama will have no further comment on the mosque near Ground Zero in New York and the administration will not get involved in talks about relocating the controversial facility.

Deputy Press Secretary Bill Burton was asked about the issue Tuesday at a White House press briefing.

He replied, "No, and no" to the questions of whether Obama would weigh in further, or whether the White House would have a role in discussions about moving the mosque.

Obama has said that he supports the right of Muslims to build the community center



Deputy Press Secretary Bill Burton briefs the press in Vineyard Haven, Mass., while the first family is vacationing on Martha's Vineyard, Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

and mosque two blocks from Ground Zero. He's also said he won't weigh in on the wisdom of building the facility. □

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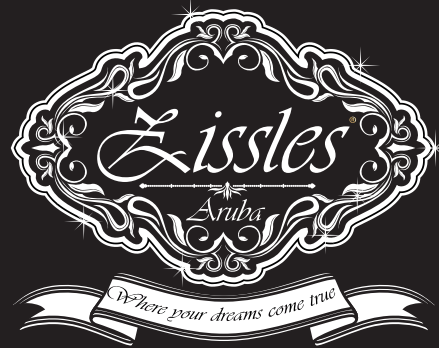
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## Ousted worker Sherrod rejects return to Ag agency

By MARY CLARE JALONICK,

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Shirley Sherrod, ousted from the Agriculture Department during a racial firestorm that embarrassed the Obama administration, rejected an offer to return to the USDA on Tuesday. But at a cordial news conference with the man who asked her to leave — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack — she said she may do consulting work for him on racial issues.

She was asked to leave her job as Georgia's director of

rural development in July after comments she made in March were misconstrued as racist. She has since received numerous apologies from the administration, including from Obama himself, and Vilsack asked her to return. But she said at the news conference with a clearly disappointed Vilsack that she did not think she could say yes to a job "at this point, with all that has happened."

Vilsack said she may work with the department in a consulting capacity in the future to help improve



Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, right, puts his arm around former Agriculture Department official Shirley Sherrod, left, as they conclude a news conference at the Agriculture Department in Washington, Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010. Sherrod, the Agriculture Department official ousted during a racial firestorm last month, declined Tuesday to return to the agency, though she said it was tempting.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

outreach to minorities.

"I look forward to some type of relationship with the department in the future," said Sherrod, who is black. "We do need to work on the issues of discrimination and race in this country."

Vilsack had asked her to become the deputy director of the Office of Advocacy and Outreach, a new position designed to bolster the department's shaky record on civil rights. He had also given her a chance to return to her former job. Both of them said Tuesday Sherrod may return to the department as a consultant once an ongoing review of the department's efforts on race issues is completed.

"I think I can be helpful to him and the department if I just take a little break and look at how I can be more helpful in the future," Sherrod said.

The two appeared friendly as

Vilsack expressed his regret that Sherrod wouldn't return to USDA. He put his arm around her at the news conference and said he leaned on her hard to return.

"I did my best, I think it's fair to say," he said. "There's no one better suited in the country to help us than Shirley."

He said a consulting job may work better for Sherrod, who was concerned about assuming administrative duties like budgeting. She said she was reluctant to be responsible for the weighty duties of the position she was offered.

"A new process is in place, and I hope it works," she said. "I don't want to be the one to test it."

Sherrod was forced to resign after conservative blogger Andrew Breitbart posted an edited version of a March speech in which said she was initially reluctant to help a

white farmer save his farm more than two decades ago, long before she worked for USDA. Vilsack and others, including the NAACP, condemned the remarks before grasping the full context of her speech, which was meant as a lesson in racial healing.

The incident proved embarrassing for the Obama administration, and President Barack Obama called her personally to express his regret. The NAACP also apologized for its reaction.

Sherrod, who said she has gotten thousands of pieces of mail supporting her, repeated Tuesday that she plans to sue Breitbart. But she declined further questions on the subject.

As he had in the past, Vilsack said he took complete responsibility for Sherrod's ouster. Though the department had conversations with the White House at the time and Sherrod said she was told it was the White House who wanted her gone, Vilsack has said the decision was his.

"I know that I disappointed the president, I disappointed this administration, I disappointed the country, I disappointed Shirley," he said. "I have to live with that ... Maybe, just maybe, this is an opportunity for the country to have the kind of conversation Shirley thinks we ought to have."

Vilsack said he talked to Sherrod for an hour and a half Tuesday morning. The two discussed a settlement for black farmers who have been victims of racism pending in the Senate and other civil rights issues facing the department. □

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## Drug war sends bullets whizzing across the border

By ALICIA A. CALDWELL,  
Associated Press Writer

EL PASO, Texas — The first bullets struck El Paso's city hall at the end of a work day. The next ones hit a university building and closed a major highway.

Shootouts in the drug war along the U.S.-Mexico border are sending bullets whizzing across the Rio Grande into one of the nation's safest cities, where authorities worry it's only a matter of time before someone gets hurt or killed.

At least eight bullets have been fired into El Paso in the last few weeks from the rising violence in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, one of the world's most dangerous places. And all American police can do is shrug because they cannot legally intervene in a war in another country. The best they can do is warn people to stay inside. "There's really not a lot you can do right now," El Paso County Sheriff Richard Wiles said. "Those gun battles are breaking out everywhere, and some are breaking out right along the border."

Police say the rounds were not intentionally fired into the U.S. But wildly aimed gunfire has become common in Juarez, a sprawling city of shanty neighborhoods that once boomed with manufacturing plants. It's ground zero in Mexico's relentless drug war. More than 6,000 people have been killed there since 2008, when the Sinaloa and Juarez cartels started battling each other and Mexican authorities for control of the city and smuggling routes into the U.S. Nationwide, more than 28,000 people have been killed since President Felipe Calderon launched his offensive against the cartels shortly after taking office in December 2006.

Until now, communities on the U.S. side of the border have been largely shielded from the violence raging just across the river. But the recent incidents are the first time that live ammunition has landed in American territory.

On Saturday, as gunmen and Mexican authorities exchanged gunfire in Juarez, police in El Paso shut down several miles of border highway. Border Patrol spokesman Doug Mosier said his agency asked for the closure — a first since the drug war erupted — "in the interest of public safety."

No one was injured on the U.S. side, but one bullet came across the Rio Grande, crashed through a window and lodged in an office door frame at the University of Texas at El Paso. Police are also investigating reports that another errant round shattered a window in a passing car. Witnesses at a nearby charity said at least one bullet hit their building, too. El Paso police spokesman Darrel Petry said authorities have only confirmed the single bullet found at the university, but it is possible that several other shots flew across the border.

"As a local municipality, we are doing everything we can," Petry said. "Looking where we're at, the community we live in, that's all we've got. It's the reality of life here in El Paso for right now."

Officers say the types of bullets used in the drug war can travel more than a mile before falling to the ground. In Saturday's shooting, the bullet that hit the campus building may have flown just under a mile before lodging in a door jam. Back in June, at least seven shots fired from Juarez flew more than half a mile before hitting City Hall.

In some places, El Paso is separated from Juarez by little more than a few yards of riverbed.

Andrew Kunert was napping Saturday when police started banging on his door at an apartment building just feet from the border. He said officers with high-powered rifles slung across their chests warned him to stay inside and away from windows until the shooting stopped.

The rat-a-tat-tat of gunfire to the south is nothing new, but bullets coming north is a worrisome new development, Kunert said.

"About once a week, you can hear gunfire," he said. He worries about the children who live at the Old Fort Bliss apartment building and routinely play outside when gunmen are trading shots across the river.

At the Rescue Mission of El Paso, kitchen manager Bill Cox said several bullets hit a pair of old silos on the charity's property, which is down a hillside from the university campus. Volunteers and homeless people coming to the mission for food or other help could easily be in the line of fire, he said.

"Someone can be walking down the street out here and be hit," Cox said.

In a letter to President Barack Obama after the City Hall shooting, Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott said it was "good fortune" that no one was injured and insisted the shooting was evidence of the need for more border security. "Luck and good fortune are not effective border enforcement policies," Abbott wrote. "The shocking reality of cross-border gunfire proves the cold reality: American lives are at risk." □



In this Aug. 23, 2010 photo, an unidentified University of Texas at El Paso student walks past the boarded up door at Bell Hall on campus in El Paso, Texas. The door is where a stray bullet from a firefight in Juarez, Mexico Saturday. There were no injuries on campus.

(AP Photo/El Paso Times, Victor Calzada)



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# Jet misses runway, crashes in China; 43 killed

ALEXA OLESEN

Associated Press Writer

BEIJING (AP) — A Chinese passenger jet broke apart as it approached a fog-shrouded runway in the country's northeast and burst into flames as it hit the ground Tuesday, killing 43 people and injuring 53 others, state media said.

The Henan Airlines plane with 91 passengers and five crew crashed in a grassy area near the Lindu airport on the outskirts of Yichun, a city of about 1 million people in Heilongjiang province, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Xinhua quoted Hua Jingwei, an Yichun publicity official, as saying that some passengers were thrown from the cabin before the broken plane hit the ground.

The Brazilian-made Embraer E-190 jet had taken off from Heilongjiang's capital of Harbin shortly before 9 p.m. and crashed a little more than an hour later, Xinhua said.

A middle-aged man who

survived the crash told China Central Television there was bad turbulence as the plane descended, then several big jolts that caused the luggage to come crashing down from the overhead bins.

"After we stopped, the people in the back were panicking and rushed to the front," the unidentified man, who had no visible injuries, said in an interview from a hospital bed. "We were trying to open the (emergency exits) but they wouldn't open. Then the smoke came in ... within two or three minutes or even a minute, we couldn't breathe. I knew something bad was going to happen."

It was not clear from his account at what point the plane broke apart. The man said he and a few others escaped from a hole in the wall of the cabin near the first row of seats, then ran from the burning wreckage.

CCTV showed firefighters dousing the burning plane with hoses and later digging



In this photo released by China's Xinhua news agency, rescuers work at the site of a reported plane crash at an airport in northeast China's Heilongjiang province on Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010. According to Xinhua, the plane overshot the runway in Yichun city and burst into flames.

Associated Press

through the wreckage of the jet.

Xinhua said 43 bodies were recovered within hours of the disaster and 53 people were hospitalized, most with

broken bones. Wang Xuemei, vice mayor of Yichun, told CCTV that three survivors were in critical condition but gave no details.

CCTV earlier said that 91 people were on board, and gave a lower death and injured toll, but the report appears to not have included the five crew on the plane.

Henan Airlines is based in the central Chinese province of the same name and flies smaller regional jets, mainly on routes in north and northeast China. Previously known as Kunpeng Airlines, the carrier was relaunched as Henan Airlines earlier this year.

Henan Airlines and many other regional Chinese airlines flying shorter routes have struggled in the past few years, losing passengers to high-speed railroad lines that China has aggressively expanded.

An American company, Phoenix-based Mesa Air Group Inc., was an original investor in Henan's predecessor company, Kunpeng, but divested its

stake last year. Mesa operates regional services in the U.S. for Delta Air Lines, United Airlines and other carriers and is undergoing bankruptcy reorganization.

Full-tilt expansion of Chinese air traffic in the 1990s led to a series of crashes that gave China the reputation of being unsafe. The poor record prompted the government to improve safety drastically, from airlines to new air traffic management systems at airports.

The last major passenger jet crash in China was in November 2004, when an China Eastern airplane plunged into a lake in northern China shortly, killing all 53 on board and two on the ground. An MD-11 cargo plane operated by Zimbabwe-based Avient Aviation crashed during takeoff from Shanghai's main airport last November. Three American crew members died while four others on board were injured. □

## UK police: Suspect arrested in 1999 suitcase death

RAPHAEL G. SATTER

Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Authorities in Bahrain arrested a suspect Tuesday in the case of a Canadian singer whose body was found stuffed inside a suitcase at London's Heathrow Airport in 1999, according to London's Scotland Yard.

The force said that Youssef Ahmed Wahid was arrested in the Gulf state in what it described as a planned operation and his extradition was pending. The body of 28-year-old Fatima Kama was found when a member of the public spotted a black suitcase abandoned on the third floor of a Heathrow Airport parking lot July 17, 1999. A security guard forced the bag open to find her in the fetal position. A post-mortem revealed she'd been stabbed more than 10 times.

Wahid, a former Kuwait Airways steward, was arrested within days of the discovery at his hometown of Ramadiyeh in southern Lebanon, and he reportedly denied having

anything to do with the killing. But he was eventually released and then went on the run. Wahid's brother, Abdel Ahmed, was also arrested in connection with the case, but British prosecutors eventually dropped the charges, citing insufficient evidence.

Kama's sister Magda, who lives in Montreal, said that news of the arrest was a painful reminder of what happened. "At the same time it does some good," she said, breaking into tears. "She was a very beautiful woman, generous, helpful."

"We had even given up hope," said Laila Kama, her other sister.

Both Youssef Ahmed Wahid and Kama, a frequent visitor to the U.K., shared an address in west London and police have said that the motive for the slaying may have been the theft of Kama's money and jewelry, which has never been recovered.

The Moroccan-born Kama had been scheduled to fly to her parents' home in Montreal on an Air Canada flight □



# China's massive traffic jam could last for weeks

ANITA CHANG,

Associated Press Writer

BEIJING (AP)—A massive traffic jam in north China that stretches for dozens of miles and hit its 10-day mark on Tuesday stems from road construction in Beijing that won't be finished until the middle of next month, an official said.

Bumper-to-bumper gridlock spanning for 60 miles with vehicles moving little more than a half-mile a day at one point has improved since this weekend, said Zhang Minghai, director of Zhangjiakou city's Traffic Management Bureau general office.

Some drivers have been stuck in the jam for five days, China Central Television reported Tuesday. But

Zhang said he wasn't sure when the situation along the Beijing-Zhangjiakou highway would return to normal.

The traffic jam started Aug. 14 on a stretch of the highway that is frequently congested, especially after large coalfields were discovered in Inner Mongolia, Zhang said. Traffic volume has increased 40 percent every year. Drivers stranded in the gridlock in the Inner Mongolia region and Hebei province, headed toward Beijing, passed the time sleeping, walking around, or playing cards and chess. Local villagers were doing brisk business selling instant noodles, boxed lunches and snacks, weaving between the parked trucks on

bicycles.

Though there were no reports of road rage violence, drivers complained about price-gouging by villagers who were their only source of food and water. A bottle of water that normally costs 1 yuan (15 cents) was selling for 10 yuan (\$1.50), while the price of a 3 yuan (45 cent-) cup of instant noodles had more than tripled, media reports said. "A boxed lunch is 10 yuan (\$1.50), and one box isn't enough for me," China National Radio cited a driver surnamed Lu as saying. "I'm spending up to 50 yuan (about \$7.50) a day on food. It's more expensive than eating in a restaurant." The highway construction in Beijing that is restricting



A cleaner picks up waste on the roadside of a jammed section of the Beijing-Zhangjiakou highway in Huailai, in north China's Hebei province, Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010. The massive traffic jam that stretches for dozens of miles and hit its 10-day mark on Tuesday stems from road construction in Beijing that won't be finished until the middle of next month, an official said.

Associated Press

inbound traffic flow and causing the jam "will not be finished until Sept. 17," Zhang said. Authorities were trying to speed up traffic by allowing more trucks to enter Beijing, especially at night, Zhang said. They also asked trucking companies to suspend operations and advised drivers to take alternate routes.

China's roadways are increasingly overburdened as the number of private vehicles booms along with commercial truck traffic hauling materials like coal and food to cities. Traffic slowdowns because of construction and accidents are common, though a 10-day traffic jam is unusual even in China. □

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## Islamist rebels attack Somali hotel, killing 32

**MALKHADIR M. MUHUMED MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN**  
Associated Press Writers

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Islamist militants wearing Somali military uniforms stormed a hotel favored by lawmakers in the war-battered capital Tuesday, firing indiscriminately and killing 32 people, including six parliamentarians.

A suicide bomber and one of the gunmen were also killed in the brazen attack just a half-mile from the presidential palace. The attack showed the insurgent group al-Shabab, which controls wide areas of Somalia, can penetrate even the few blocks of the capital under the control of the government and African Union troops.

Tuesday's well-planned assault came one day after al-Shabab warned of a new "massive war." Sheik Ali Mohamud Rage, an insurgent spokesman, said the attack by members of the group's "special forces" targeted government leaders, foreign agents and "apostates" at the \$10-a-night Muna Hotel.

Survivors of the hour-long slaughter described seeing bodies strewn throughout the hotel and people scrambling to safety through windows.

An 11-year-old shoeshine boy and a woman selling tea were among the dead.

In an interview with The Associated Press, one parliamentarian said she was jolted awake by the popping sound of gunfire. Saynab Qayad said three fellow lawmakers staying on the top floor of the three-story hotel drew their guns while other guests fled out windows.

"Smoke filled my room after bullets smashed my window. I hid myself in a corner of the room. Then a guest next door came to my door, screaming 'Come out! Come out!' And when I came out bullets continued to fly around.

"I went back to my room and locked my door. Shortly afterward, the hotel staff asked me to come down and put me in a room at the second floor with four other survivors," she said. "The body of a member of parliament was lying at that small room's door."

A manager at the Muna Hotel, Abdullahi Warsame, said the attack was carried out by two gunmen who first fired on people sitting under a tree, then opened fire at the reception desk. The gunmen then moved to the second floor, where they battled security forces and armed parliamentarians, he said. The two fought until

they ran out of ammunition, when one blew himself up, Warsame said.

After it was over, Somali government forces tied the body of one of the dead assailants to the back of a pickup truck and dragged it through the dusty streets of the capital, a scene eerily reminiscent of how bodies of dead American soldiers were treated following the disastrous Black Hawk Down battle of 1993 in Mogadishu.

Tuesday's attack only extended the stream of warfare that rattled Mogadishu on Monday, when 40 civilians died in fighting between al-Shabab and Somali and African Union troops.

Somalia's deputy prime minister told AP that 19 civilians, six members of parliament, five security forces and two hotel workers were killed Tuesday — a total of 32. Two attackers also were killed, said Abdirahman Haji Aden Ibi, the deputy prime minister. A government statement said 31 people were killed. There was no way to immediately reconcile the figures.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said the attack during Ramadan highlighted al-Shabab's "complete disregard for human life, Somali culture



Somali government forces walk outside the Muna Hotel in Mogadishu, Somalia, Tuesday Aug. 24, 2010. A suicide bomber and a gunman stormed the hotel in Somalia's capital on Tuesday, killing at least 15 people, including members of parliament, a military spokesman said.

and Islamic values."

Al-Shabab, which has links to al-Qaida and boasts veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars among its ranks, has grown deadlier in recent months. Last month it claimed twin bombings in Uganda during the World Cup final that killed 76 people.

"The only intention of this group is to destroy the nation, massacre people and then finally hand the country to ruthless foreigners," Somali President Sheik Sharif Sheikh Ahmed said. "So I call upon all Somali people to unite

fighting against these enemies and help government forces."

The militant group is fighting to oust the 6,000 African Union troops from Uganda and Burundi that prop up the U.N.-backed Somali government — forces whom al-Shabab calls crusaders and invaders.

"We will eliminate them from our country in a battle we call 'the end of the aggressors,'" Rage said.

"They wanted to enjoy themselves in hotels while women and children are sent to makeshift homes." □

*Associated Press*



# Hezbollah, Sunni group clash in Beirut, killing 3

ELIZABETH A. KENNEDY

Associated Press Writer

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanese Shiite and Sunni groups traded machine gun fire and grenades in Beirut on Tuesday, killing three people and wounding several others just blocks from a busy downtown packed with tourists at this time of year.

Lebanese soldiers cordoned off the area and prevented journalists from entering, but the crackle of sniper fire and popping of rocket propelled grenades was audible for hours.

Gunmen stood on the corners and peering down alleyways in the neighborhood while families ran for cover. Ambulances rushed to the scene and an elderly man was loaded into a stretcher clutching his neck, while another was covered in blood and not moving.

The shootout erupted between the Shiite Hezbollah and the conservative Sunni Al-Ahbash group following a fight outside a mosque in the mixed residential area of Bourj Abu Haidar security officials said.

A joint statement issued later by the two groups said the incident resulted from an "personal dispute and has no political or sectarian

background."

It said the two sides agreed to immediately put an end to their differences and end all armed presence on the street.

The officials said Mohammed Fawaz, a Hezbollah official from the area, and his aide, Munzer Hadi, were killed in the clashes along with Fawaz Omeirat of Al-Ahbash.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

Angry fighters later set fire to a mosque in the nearby neighborhood of Basta, according to an AP photographer.

Salah, a 40-year-old who did not wish to give his last name, said he was inside the Bourj Abu Haidar mosque when he heard a commotion outside and people screaming "calm down."

Then 20 minutes later, he heard gunshots and bullets slamming into the mosque. "They were shooting at the mosque.

I think these people are crazy. They must have gone home to get their friends," he said.

Salah stayed inside with others before fleeing during a lull in the fighting.

The clashes took place as



A gunman carries an RPG during clashes between supporters of the Shiite Hezbollah and a Sunni conservative group in the mixed residential area of Bourj Abu Haidar near central Beirut, Lebanon, Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010. Lebanese Shiite and Sunni groups traded machine gun fire and grenades in Beirut on Tuesday, killing two people and wounding several others just blocks from a busy downtown packed with tourists at this time of year.

Associated Press

Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah addressed supporters, calling for increased military assistance for the Lebanese army from Iran and its Arab neighbors. It was the worst clash since May 2008, when Hezbollah gunmen swept through Sunni neighborhoods of Beirut after the pro-Western government tried to dismantle the group's telecommunications network.

The fighting at the time brought the country to the

brink of a new civil war.

Lebanon has a history of deadly sectarian strife. Tensions have been running high in recent weeks over signs a U.N. tribunal could indict Hezbollah in the 2005 killing of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

Nasrallah has said he has information that the tribunal will implicate Hezbollah members, but he says the tribunal is an "Israeli project" and has no credibility.

Al-Ahbash, or the

Association of Islamic Charitable Projects, is a deeply conservative Muslim group and a rival to many other Sunni groups in the country, including Hariri's Future movement and the hardline Islamic Group.

The group's name rose to prominence in the wake of Hariri's assassination. Two senior officials from the group were detained for about four years on suspicion of involvement in the killing, but were later released. □



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At Tierra del Sol Golf Course & Country Club

# Aruba International PRO-AM Golf Tournament announced

WEST PUNT – The Aruba Tourism Authority hosted a press conference yesterday at Tierra del Sol Golf Course to announce the 16th

## Hurricane Danielle Weakens to Tropical Storm

Hurricane Danielle was downgraded from a Category One hurricane to a tropical storm Tuesday, but National Hurricane Center forecasters said they expected the weakening to be temporary.

The storm was located approximately 895 miles (1,445 kilometers) east of the Leeward Islands, the northern islands of the Lesser Antilles chain of islands, which stretch from Curacao to the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean. Danielle was packing sustained winds of up to 70 miles per hour (30 kph) and was moving west-northwest at 18 miles per hour.

The National Hurricane Center said the storm was expected to strengthen during the next 48 hours and could become a hurricane later Tuesday or on Wednesday.

There were no coastal watches or warnings in effect. □



Annual Aruba Pro-AmGolf Tournament coming this weekend.

Various teams will participate hailing from 10 countries with the USA, St. Thomas, Holland,

Aruba, Curacao, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia and Argentina among them.

The international representatives of the Aruba Tourism Authority have been preparing for this world class golf event by running “Copa Aruba,” a local golf tournament in their respective countries.

The Aruba International Pro-Am tournament born as the Johnny Walker Tournament changed its name 8 years ago when the Aruba Tourism Authority took it over as an international event promotion Aruba as a golf destination.

Top Car will be sponsoring the Hole-in-one this year, so everyone better be ready to win a car.

Registration will take place on Friday at the club-house, with a shot gun start scheduled for 12:30 on Saturday. □





# Mid Atlantic Fam Trip enjoys Radisson Hospitality



PALM BEACH – A Mid-Atlantic group of travel agents on a familiarization trip to Aruba enjoyed genuine Radisson hospitality as they participated in a property tour under the guidance of senior sales manager Lily Polsbroek.

The agents were invited to Aruba by Jacqueline Clark, the Aruba Tourism Authority representative in the Mid-Atlantic USA. Clark extended the invitation to top ten agents, and helped orchestrate the trip to perfection. Their time here was designed to showcase the island and its many attractions, she explained.

Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa was the host hotel, and all agents enjoyed the Sunset Grille famed breakfast on the morning of their arrival. □

*Sunday August 29 at Eagle Beach*

## Get ready for Aruba Aloe Beach Tennis event

*Got sand...play Beach Tennis!!'*



EAGLE BEACH - This Sunday BTA and Aruba Aloe organize the 7th ranking tournament of the year. There will be 12 courts set up plenty of tents to provide shade, the famous bar with ice cold drinks for the around 180 participants and even more spectators! There are a lot of 'new' players and especially the youth is coming up in huge numbers knocking on

the door of the top players. That in combination with some tourist player make this event suitable for 'every body'! Special attendance by Greek champion Elpis Trelokomos who heard so much about the beach tennis mania in Aruba that he is here to check it out! BTA (Beach Tennis Aruba) is also proud to be officially part of the ITF world tour with their International



tournament in November this year! Till that time the local players have plenty time to prepare and train for this \$ 10,000.- event sponsored by Marriott Stellaris casino. It's going to be an active Beach Tennis event Sunday August 29th at Eagle Aruba Aloe Beach Tennis event Program: 9-11 am, Youth tournament (just show

up). 11 am – 7 pm, Adult tournament (register online!) For more info and/or register go to : [www.arubabeachtennis.com](http://www.arubabeachtennis.com) or call 5926421.

BTA is powered by: Alno Kitchen, Amstel Bright, Aruba Aloe, ATA, AWA, Bacardi Mojito, Company 81, Deloitte, Inter Assure, Island Temptations, Powerade & Marriott Stellaris casino.



*Venezuelan Artists*

# Ernesto Cortez & Juan Carlos Barry enjoys at Moomba



**HADICURARI** - Recently, several well-known Venezuela artists who were visiting Aruba enjoyed a delicious breakfast at the MooMba Beach Bar and Restaurant. They enjoyed the buffet style breakfast in the tropical atmosphere next to the sea. Ernesto and Juan Carlos loved the treatment they received by the management and staff of MooMba Beach. "A big thank you to the Venezuelans for joining us for breakfast and we hope you come back real soon," from the staff at MooMba Beach. □



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# Big Twin celebrates at Aqua Grill



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**PALM BEACH** – This past weekend, the crew from Big Twin Harley-Davidson gathered at the island's seafood hot spot, Aqua Grill in Palm Beach, for a monumental celebration. The island's official Harley-Davidson dealer has been recognized as the top dealership in the Caribbean and Latin America. Owner Humphrey Hardeveld, who traveled to Las Vegas to receive the award, treated his entire

team to a special dinner to thank them for their contributions in making Big Twin number one. The group enjoyed choices from the island's freshest local catches, seafood flown in fresh daily from abroad, live Maine lobster, prime USDA steaks, and the island's largest raw bar. The Big Twin team is pictured here in Aqua Grill's chic lounge enjoying cocktails before dinner. □



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# YMCA Basketball to start youth program



SAN NICOLAS - YMCA San Nicolas announces the start of their youth basketball program. Youth basketball at present is for boys ages 10 through 18 years of age. The teams are formed confirming the Basketball Federation division classification. Youth Divisions are Mini-basketball (ages 10~12), Pasarela (ages 13~14), cadets (ages 15~16) and Juniors (ages 17~18 and not making 19 this year).

On August 28, 2010 10am to 12 midday, there will basketball games organized specifically to form the Cadets (15~16) and Juniors (17~19) teams. And same day from 1pm to 3pm for Pasarela (13~14) players.

Tryout games are to test the players basketball skills and also provide the opportunity to play and have fun even if they don't make the team. Players should dress appropriately "sportive". Parents interested in enrolling their kids in the YMCA Basketball are required to fill-in a registration form prior to the Tryout games-day.

These are available at the YMCA San Nicolas front desk. YMCA Membership contribution and Y-Basketball programs fees must be up-to-date in order to participate in Y-team. For more information please contact the YMCA San Nicolas telephone 584-5303 or email [ymca-aruba@hombail.com](mailto:ymca-aruba@hombail.com).





After recently departing Aruba, the USS Klakring heads to Curacao

# U.S. Sailors, Airmen Help Rebuild Orphanage



CURACAO - Community relations (COMRELS) projects help bridge cultures, uplift communities and lay foundations for change for all involved.

USS Klakring (FFG 42) and Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL 42) Detachment (Det) 10 sailors worked alongside airmen from 429th Expeditionary Operations Squadron landscaping, building bookshelves and painting during a COMREL at the Siloam Village Orphanage in Curacao, 16 August. The ship was in Curacao as part of the six-month Southern Seas 2010 deployment to the region.

The orphanage presently houses 12 terminally ill children and helps the

surrounding community through weekly food and clothing distributions. Plans are being made to provide a daycare, school and training facilities for adults to help improve reading and enhance job skills.

It is supported by the generous contributions from private citizens and organizations that give money, supplies and time.

Owner and director Brother Herman Gijsbers, a missionary who along with his wife, Bep, and daughter, Natasja, moved from the Netherlands to Curacao 21 years ago, said he was very pleased and a bit overwhelmed to have the U.S. military (18 sailors and 10 airmen) come out and do so much for the children and

community.

"It would have taken me three or four months to do the work you all did in four hours," said Brother Herman. "I saw the work and sweat you all gave for us in this heat today. I am truly grateful to both God and you for being here."

COMREL programs enable U.S. military members to be involved with the local community through humanitarian efforts.

Many of the programs include repairing and repainting schools or hospitals in communities of need, as well as providing supplies such as

medical goods and hygiene products. School supplies and toys are also common goods given to the local community.

Air Force Chaplain Karl Blancaflor said we as Americans sometime forget how fortunate we are. "One of the Air Force's core values is service before self, and that has truly been exemplified out here today," Blancaflor said. "Projects like these remind us there is always someone who can use a helping hand."

Air Force Chaplain assistant Staff Sgt. Tiffany Hoeck said it was very easy to get her fellow airmen to come out and lend a helping hand. She added the U.S. Joint Forces worked well together.

"People are always requesting information on the next COMREL project. It's amazing so many people are more than willing to come out and do this type of work in this heat," said Hoeck. "It's a privilege to be here."

Klakring sailors were also eager to volunteer for the COMREL project, which enabled them to interact with members of the community, as well as their Air Force counterparts.

"I volunteer because I know how fortunate I am," said Fire Controlman 3rd Class Gordon Elder.

"These kids deal with very tragic circumstances. Hopefully, our being here and the work we're doing will enable them to rest more comfortably."

"It is so difficult to put into words the feelings I have for you all and the wonderful work you did for these children and this community," said Brother Herman.

"It's like opening a bottle of champagne. The bubbles represent my feelings, and they're just pouring out of me."

COMREL projects are an important theme of the Southern Seas 2010 (SS10) Deployment which focuses mainly on Security Cooperation events. For KLAKRING, this project was one of many humanitarian efforts taking place on this deployment. Curacao was the 16th port visit made during SS10.

Southern Seas is a U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM)-directed operation implemented by U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command (COMUSNAVSO) and carried out by Commander, Destroyer Squadron 40 (DESRON 40). This year's deployment includes CDS 40, USS Klakring and HSL 42 Det 10. □



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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but **Texas de Brazil's** version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, home-made soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, **Texas de Brazil** will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad.

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata Negra which we import directly from Andalucía. As your main course you could choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

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**STARRING:** Adam Steinfeld

**WHAT:** Comedy Magic, Grand Illusion show.

**COST:** \$20.00 (under 15), \$35.00 adult

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Caroline Wozniacki from Denmark celebrates after beating Vera Zvonareva from Russia in the final to win the Rogers Cup tennis tournament Monday, Aug. 23, 2010 in Montreal.

## Wozniacki seeded No. 1 at U.S. Open; Clijsters No. 2

NEW YORK (AP)—Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark was seeded No. 1 at a Grand Slam tournament for the first time on Tuesday, receiving the top spot at the U.S. Open because Serena Williams pulled out with a foot injury.

Wozniacki, ranked No. 2 behind Williams by the WTA, was the runner-up at Flushing Meadows last year and is the first woman since 2003 to be seeded No. 1 at the U.S. Open without already having won a major championship.

Defending champion Kim Clijsters was seeded No. 2 by the U.S. Tennis Association, which stuck strictly to the rankings in determining the seedings. Venus Williams, the 2000-01 U.S. Open champion, is No. 3, followed by 2008 runner-up Jelena Jankovic and French Open runner-up Samantha Stosur.

Two other past U.S. Open champions who were seeded are No. 11 Svetlana Kuznetsova and No. 14 Maria Sharapova.

Serena Williams, Venus' younger sister, withdrew last week, saying she was recovering from surgery to repair cuts on her right foot. □

## Out of Tiger's Shadow

Phil Mickelson yells fore as his tee shot on the fourth tee goes right into the gallery during the third round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio on Saturday, Aug. 7, 2010.

*Read more on Page B8*



## Upton, Upton and ...away



Tampa Bay Rays center fielder B.J. Upton, can't catch a two-RBI double hit by Los Angeles Angels' Hideki Matsui, of Japan, in the third inning of a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif., Monday, Aug. 23, 2010.

Associated Press

AL Roundup Page B8



# Krzyzewski says team still learning to play together

DEMETRIS NELLAS

Associated Press Writer

ATHENS, Greece (AP) —

The United States has three major problems to solve if it is to dominate the forthcoming World Championship, coach Mike Krzyzewski said Tuesday.

Krzyzewski, who has assembled a roster of young NBA talent, said that a lack of height, the differences between NBA and global basketball rules, and his players' lack of experience playing together are all challenges for the U.S. His team has one more opportunity to prepare, in a tuneup game against Greece on Wednesday. The World Championship, in Turkey, runs Aug. 28 through Sep. 12. "We have only played three (warmup) games and we have never played together before (in a championship game)," Krzyzewski said after a shootaround at the Olympic Indoor Arena in Athens.

"(Wednesday) night's game for us is about getting a better understanding of ourselves and the international game before we get into the world championships. We get the chance to do it against one of the best teams."

Wednesday's game is being held in the same arena where the U.S. team at the 2004 Olympics — which included LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, Tim Duncan and Allen Iverson, among others — failed to win gold for the first time since 1972.

Greece upset the Americans at the previous World Championship, in 2006, winning their semifinal against a lineup that again contained James and Wade.

Only with Krzyzewski's "Redeem Team" of 2008 did the U.S. win another Olympic gold and break a string of disappointing results in major tournaments dating back to the 2002 World Championship in Indianapolis.

Krzyzewski's roster for Turkey this year boasts just two veterans — Denver Nuggets guard Chauncey Billups and Lakers forward Lamar Odom. He has said that defending champion Spain is the favorite, but his



United States coach Mike Krzyzewski, center left, talks to the players after a training session at Caja Magica stadium in Madrid on Thursday, Aug. 19, 2010. The United States basketball team will play two friendly games against Lithuania and Spain this week.

team defeated the Spaniards, in Madrid, 86-85 last Sunday. "In Beijing (in 2008) we had a team of experienced professionals; this team has younger professionals, outside of Odom and Billups," said Krzyzewski, who built his fame as a successful college coach.

"We are trying to adapt (to different kinds of players) and it's good. I don't think the

players should have to adapt to you as much as you should adapt to them."

Tyson Chandler is the team's only true center as well as its only 7-footer, but Krzyzewski said that situation was not intentional.

"We thought we would be bigger but the first day of training camp we lost (Brook) Lopez, (Amare) Stoudamire and (David) Lee and we could

not bring other people in," he said. "There's more (chance of) error with the lack of size."

He added that he might use a zone defense extensively on Wednesday against Greece's tall frontline. "I could also use (Sofoklis) Schortsanitis," Krzyzewski joked, referring to Greece's 2.08-meter, 156-kilogram (6-foot-10, 345-pound) center.

His team must learn to adapt to international basketball rules, especially on traveling, a problem for many U.S. professionals, men and women, playing in Europe. In the game against Spain, the U.S. bench was furious at officials' numerous traveling calls. "I understand that in the half court, you have to put the ball down before you move, but (calling a traveling violation) in the full court is something that's a little bit unusual," Krzyzewski said.

The U.S. coach may lack the star-studded lineup he had at the Olympics but he has gained a wealth of knowledge on his opponents. At the last World Championship, he was derided by the Greek press and some U.S. commentators for referring to the Greek players using their jersey numbers. On Tuesday he mentioned several names and analyzed their strengths. When he stumbled over the name of Greek center Yannis Bouroussis, he quipped: "I am sorry. But you do have difficulty with (pronouncing) Krzyzewski, don't you?"

U.S. embassy security personnel were at the shootaround and will also be at Wednesday's game. They, along with USA Basketball officials, inspected the premises last Thursday, hours before the Greece-Serbia friendly.

The U.S. team has also done some touring. On Monday evening they visited the Acropolis museum and on Tuesday they went to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in central Athens, where they were greeted by tourism minister Giorgos Nikitiadis, and distributed autographs.

At the World Championship, the U.S. plays Brazil, Croatia, Iran, Slovenia and Tunisia in Group B. Greece, the runner-up at the last worlds, is in Group C with China, the Ivory Coast, Puerto Rico, Russia and Turkey.

Group A features Angola, Argentina, Australia, Germany, Jordan and Serbia and Group D contains Canada, France, Lebanon, Lithuania, New Zealand and defending champion Spain. □

## Missing top talent hurts U.S. team at Youth Olympics

By ALEX KENNEDY

Associated Press Writer

SINGAPORE — The head of the U.S. Olympic Committee on Tuesday blamed scheduling conflicts for the Americans' woeful performance in the inaugural Youth Olympics, where their gold medal tally is less than Hungary and Azerbaijan.

The U.S. team, which traditionally is a dominant force at Olympic games, has won just four gold medals in Singapore and trails far behind China, which tops the medals table with 29 golds.

"There were some scheduling challenges," USOC chief executive Scott Blackmun said. "We looked at this as a developmental opportunity for some of our athletes who don't otherwise get the opportunity to compete internationally."

The talent gap was most glaring in the pool, as Chinese swimmers won 11 golds while the American team won one race. Some elite U.S. swimmers skipped the Youth Olympics

to compete at the Pan-Pacific Championships in Irvine, Calif., on Aug 18-22.

On Tuesday, Chile won the girls soccer gold, defeating Equatorial Guinea 5-3 in a penalty shootout, while the Netherlands beat Argentina 2-1 in the girls field hockey final. Blackmun said the U.S. team embraced the sports, cultural and educational activities of the Youth Games, which feature 3,600 athletes aged 14 to 18 from 204 national Olympic committees competing in 26 sports from Aug 14-26.

"As things turned out, we might have struck that balance a little closer to the culture and education line," Blackmun said. "It's not like we sent athletes that weren't qualified to be there."

U.S. coaches defended the quality of their teams. Girls basketball coach Kathy Richey-Walton said her team, which won the bronze, had the best talent in the tournament. The boys basketball team stumbled to a fourth-place finish. □



# Doctors clear Yao Ming for basketball activities

**CHRIS DUNCAN,**  
**AP Sports Writer**  
HOUSTON (AP) — Chinese center Yao Ming is confident that he'll be ready for the start of the NBA regular season after a Houston Rockets doctor declared his surgically repaired foot fully healed. Yao missed last season after undergoing complex surgery on his left foot in July 2009. Team doctor Tom Clanton has cleared Yao to resume basketball activities.

The Rockets had said all along that they expected Yao to play in 2010-11. Yao was still relieved when he got the official diagnosis.

"I am very excited," Yao said on Tuesday. "I am just looking forward to playing a great season. I think I can count on my foot now."

The 2.29-meter (7-foot-6) Yao sweated through a gray T-shirt during a vigorous workout for reporters at the Toyota Center. He mostly worked on post moves with teammate Chuck

Hayes and 2.14-meter (7-footer) James Cripe, a player in the NBA's developmental league.

He landed awkwardly on his left foot at one point, wincing in pain. He resumed the workout a few seconds later, and said he's less afraid to test the foot than he was two months ago, when he started running again.

"That's just the confidence," Yao said. "I think everybody would have that after a foot injury, and (I'm) just still a little bit weak on that. I just need to continue to build on that. Compared to two months ago, it's really a lot better."

General manager Daryl Morey says the team will be cautious with Yao and limit his minutes early in the season. Morey said Clanton's diagnosis was a "key hurdle" in Yao's road back. "It's great news," Morey said. "It's what we anticipated, but until you get over these milestones, you're never for sure. He looks like his old self.

He still has a ways to go on his wind (fitness) and things like that. But it's just good to see him out there."

Early in his recovery, Yao had doubts about his future. In the month after he was told that he would likely miss the 2009-10 season, Yao said he secluded himself and hoped to find out later that the doctors had somehow made a mistake.

"That was really a hard month for me," Yao said. "I got a lot of phone calls from the Rockets staff, coaches, players, teammates and my friends and of course, my family will always be there to stay with me."

"That was the hardest time, (and it's) already passed. Now, we're looking forward and making something good."

The Rockets open training camp on Sept. 25. They will travel to China in mid-October for two preseason games against New Jersey.

At this point, Yao seems more concerned about rebuilding



**Houston Rockets center Yao Ming, of China, prepares to shoot a free throw during a basketball workout Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010 in Houston. Yao underwent a medical evaluation Monday which revealed the hairline fracture in his surgically repaired left foot has fully healed. He has been cleared to take part in normal basketball activities.**

*Associated Press*

his stamina than re-injuring his foot. He said he's lost 40 pounds (18 kilograms) in the last 3½ months, and still wants to lose 10-15 more pounds (4½-7 kilograms) before the regular season begins.

"I'm really, really not in good shape right now," he said. "I'm probably a little bit away from game shape. The good news is we still have one month until training camp, and two months to the season."

A seven-time NBA All-Star, Yao has averaged 19.1 points and 9.3 rebounds in seven seasons since the Rockets

drafted him with the No. 1 overall pick in 2002.

Yao, who turns 30 on Sept. 12, said he's fought the urge to push himself too hard as he tries to regain his old form. The Rockets' medical staff advised Yao throughout his recovery that he needed to scale back his workouts.

"The doctors say, 'No, you need to slow down,'" he said. "'Step by step, you need to learn walking before you start running.' That's what they said. They said I've got to be patient with it. But I'm very happy." □

## Top seed Baghdatis advances at Pilot Pen

**PAT EATON-ROBB,**  
**Associated Press Writer**

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — Top-seeded Marcos Baghdatis fought through strong winds and a half hour of rain delays Tuesday for a 6-2, 6-4 win over Russia's Igor Andreiev in his opening match at the Pilot Pen tennis tournament.

The Cypriot, who made it to the semifinals last week in Cincinnati and the finals earlier this month in Washington said he's playing some of his best tennis heading into next week's U.S. Open.

"It's been a good summer for me, but I came to play here and I came to win the tournament," he said.

"I'm not looking to win a Grand Slam or play well in a Grand Slam," he added. "I'm looking to improve my tennis."

Baghdatis broke Andreiev in the first game of each set and kept the pressure on, but said the weather made it hard to get into a rhythm.

"The balls are heavy with the wind, with the rain a bit, you don't feel really good to grip the racket," he said. "I cannot say I'm feeling perfect, but I'm happy I won. I'm happy I found a solution so I can get another match tomorrow."

In the women's draw, Russian Maria Kirilenko beat last year's finalist Elena Vesnina 6-1, 3-6, 6-1 in the first round, a year after making it to the finals.

Despite her runner-up status, Vesnina had to go through qualifying to get into the tournament,

arriving from Montreal on Saturday just 2 hours before her first match. She played and won three matches over the weekend to earn her way into this year's main draw.

Kirilenko said she switched rackets after losing her feel for the ball in the second set.

"I started to make a lot of double faults, and my serve didn't work at all," she said. "In the third set, my serve started to feel better."

On the grandstand court, Marion Bartoli of France needed three sets to get by Alona Bondarenko of Ukraine 6-7 (4), 7-6 (2), 6-3. Bartoli said wind gusts didn't allow her to be as aggressive as she would have liked.

"I was aiming in the middle and my ball was ending up 10 centimeters from the baseline or from the right or left line," she said.

Australia's Samantha Stosur played Italy's Sara Errani in the final women's match Tuesday night. In the men's draw, third-seeded Chile's Fernando Gonzalez, back from a knee injury that has kept him out since the French Open, lost to Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-4 in a second-round match.

Stepanek is playing his fourth tournament after coming back from his own knee problems, and had lost in the first round of the other three.

"After such a long time off, you have to find your game," he said.

American Donald Young fell in his second-round match to Argentinian Juan Ignacio Chela, 5-7, 6-4 6-0.

James Blake, who grew up in nearby Fairfield was to play in the final match of the night. □



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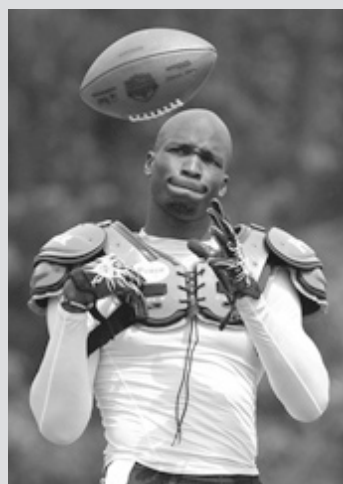
### NFL fines Ochocinco for timing of Twitter use

CINCINNATI (AP) — Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Chad Ochocinco was fined \$25,000 by the NFL on Tuesday for the timing of his tweets.

The league said Ochocinco's messages appeared on his Twitter page during a prohibited time during the Bengals-Philadelphia Eagles preseason game on Friday. It said the Bengal player violated policies on electronic device possession and posting of social media messages.

The use of cell phones, computers or other electronic equipment by players and coaches is prohibited from 90 minutes before kickoff through the end of the game.

The NFL's statement said Ochocinco's messages on the social media site showed



Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Chad Ochocinco tosses a football during practice Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2010, at the NFL football team's training camp in Georgetown, Ky.

*Associated Press*

up at 6:50 p.m. and 9:53 p.m. Kickoff was 8:07.

Ochocinco apologized — how else? — through Twitter.

"I won't do it again," he tweeted. □

### Anthony, Howard to star in NBA/Shanghai film

NEW YORK (AP) — NBA stars Carmelo Anthony and Dwight Howard will star in a basketball film with an award-winning Chinese director titled "Amazing."

The NBA and Shanghai Film Group announced the joint production effort on Tuesday, calling it "the first NBA-themed motion picture outside of North America."

The filming will take place in New York, Beijing and Shanghai through November and feature top actors from Asia.

The movie is scheduled to open next summer.

"Amazing" is directed by Hu Xuehua, a winner of the Kennedy Center Honors.

The NBA will play its fifth set of preseason games in China when the Houston Rockets and New Jersey Nets play in Beijing and Guangzhou in October. □

## Jets' Nick Mangold signs, becomes highest-paid center



In this Aug. 21, 2010, file photo, New York Jets center Nick Mangold gets set at the line of scrimmage during a preseason NFL football game against the Carolina Panthers in Charlotte, N.C.

*Associated Press*

DENNIS WASZAK Jr.,

AP Sports Writer

FLORHAM PARK, New Jersey (AP) — New York Jets center Nick Mangold became the highest-paid player at his position by signing a seven-year deal on Tuesday that could be worth up to \$55 million.

"To be able to say, 'the highest-paid center' is very nice to hear," Mangold said. "It worked out well for both sides."

The deal includes over \$22

million in guaranteed money, a person with knowledge of the contract told The Associated Press. The person requested anonymity because the team did not announce details of the deal.

"Signed, sealed and delivered," a smiling Mangold said.

The two-time Pro Bowl center was scheduled to earn \$3.3 million in the final year of his five-year rookie deal. The contract surpasses the one inked last year by St. Louis center Jason Brown, whose

five-year contract was worth \$37.5 million, including \$20 million guaranteed.

"It wasn't a sticking point and I'm very fortunate that the Jets decided to go that route," Mangold said of being the league's highest-paid center. "I'm very appreciative and excited to have that. I'm sure next year some young gun will come along and blow me out of the water anyway, and that's A-OK in my book."

Mangold was a first-round pick out of Ohio State University in 2006, and quickly became regarded around the league as one of the game's best at his position. He anchored an offensive line last season that paved the way for the NFL's top rushing offense.

The Jets have now signed two of their four key, young players to long-term deals. New York gave Pro Bowl left tackle D'Brickashaw Ferguson a six-year deal for \$60 million last month. Cornerback Darrelle Revis and linebacker David Harris are also looking for new contracts. □

## Andy Schleck opts out of road world championships

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — The Luxembourg cycling federation says Tour de France runner-up Andy Schleck will miss next month's road world championships in Australia. Schleck, 25, will instead concentrate on his participation in the Spanish Vuelta starting Saturday through to Sept. 19 and his preparation for Italy's

Tour of Lombardy from Oct. 16.

The road world championships will be held in Melbourne and nearby Geelong from Sept. 29 to Oct. 3.

The Luxembourg federation posted an announcement on its website Tuesday saying Schleck had ruled himself out of the national team for the worlds. □



# Johnson scores TD, Titans beat Cardinals 24-10

By **TERESA M. WALKER**  
AP Sports Writer

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** — National championship, regular season or simply an exhibition. The setting doesn't seem to matter, not when Vince Young is playing Matt Leinart.

Young outdueled Leinart yet again, Chris Johnson ran for a touchdown and Tennessee beat the Arizona Cardinals 24-10 Monday night in the Titans' preseason home opener.

The Titans (1-1) never trailed as Johnson scored on his sixth carry, an 8-yard TD that capped an 85-yard drive. The All-Pro watched from the bench the rest of the night.

The top two quarterbacks taken in the 2006 draft didn't play very much in the preseason matchup. At least Leinart didn't have to watch Young drive his team down the field late for the win like he did in the 2006 BCS national championship or on this very field last Nov. 29 with a 99-yard drive for a 20-17 win.

"He felt excited about playing," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said of Young. "He was prepared, focused and made plays with his legs, made plays with his arm and was really good on the line of scrimmage as well."

Young has no competition for his starting job these days, and he was 9 of 13 for 128 yards. The former Texas star left after four series with a 10-0 lead, and he said the offense feels like it's coming together.

"We've got to ... keep working," Young said. "Don't get happy with ourselves right now because we still have a long ways to go. But I feel the confidence in myself as well as the receivers is very good right now."

Leinart is trying to hold off Derek Anderson for the starting job in Arizona.

Leinart, who starred for Southern California in college, was 4 of 6 for 28 yards but produced no points for a second straight preseason game. The Cardinals (1-1) went three-and-out on each of his three series with the Titans blitzing and showing different looks on defense.

"I'm trying to work to get better," Leinart said. "Guys are counting on me, and I'm confident that we're going to get the job done and I'm going to get the job done. And that's the bottom line."

Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt wasn't happy that the offense couldn't take advantage of the Titans' pressure, especially on third-and-1 on Leinart's final series with a ball down the sideline to rookie Stephen Williams.

"That's disappointing," Whisenhunt said. "It is a preseason game where we didn't prepare against those kind of blitzes, but we've seen looks like that from our defense so I expect us to handle it better than we did tonight."

Young struggled a bit early but completed three of four passes for 67 yards to set up Johnson's TD run.

On his fourth drive, Young fumbled the ball off his chest while scrambling only to see

the ball bounce right back to him as he finished off an 8-yard gain for a first down. Three plays later, Nate Washington got his hands underneath a low throw initially ruled incomplete. Fisher challenged and the replay showed he made the catch.

Young drove the Titans to first-and-goal before they stalled. He tried to scramble up the middle on third down and was sacked by Paris Lenon and Adrian Wilson. Still, Rob Bironas' 29-yard field goal capped the clock-consuming drive.

Anderson replaced Leinart and gave the Cardinals a brief spark against the Titans' first-team defense. He completed a 13-yarder to Steve Breaston for Arizona's first first down of the game. He also found Williams, starting in place of Larry Fitzgerald (sprained knee), on a 37-yard pass.

Working from the Tennessee 6, Anderson overthrew Breaston in the end zone and couldn't connect with Williams before the Cardinals settled for a 19-yard field goal from Jay Feely in the second quarter. The Titans certainly looked energized playing under the lights in the first game at LP Field since a May flood covered the field and



Tennessee Titans running back Samkon Gado (36) gets past Arizona Cardinals safety Matt Ware (22) as Gado scores a touchdown on a 4-yard run in the third quarter of a preseason NFL football game on Monday, Aug. 23, 2010, in Nashville, Tenn.

*Associated Press*

parking lot with water. The Cardinals looked a bit tired from the trip east in an exhibition preceding a joint practice between the teams Wednesday at the Titans' headquarters.

The flood was remembered with a moment of silence before the national anthem. "We were very, very fortunate here," Fisher said of minor damage to the stadium. "This was the last of Nashville's worries,

and we were just very fortunate."

Samkon Gado, signed when rookie Stafon Johnson dislocated his right ankle in the Titans' preseason-opening loss at Seattle, scored on a pair of 4-yard TD runs in the third quarter. Max Hall was intercepted in his brief duty behind Anderson, but he did find Max Komar for a 22-yard TD midway through the fourth. □

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In this Feb. 18, 2010 file photo, Russia's Evgeni Plushenko waits for his scores following his free program during the men's figure skating competition at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia.

*Associated Press*

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Former Olympic champion Evgeni Plushenko is unlikely to skate at the 2014 Sochi Olympics after being punished by the International

Skating Union for competing in exhibitions without permission from the Russian federation.

The Olympic gold and silver medalist failed to appeal a

# Evgeni Plushenko stripped of eligibility, out of Olympics

June decision by the ISU in the allotted 21 days, and the ISU said Monday its decision was final.

The Russian is now ineligible for "any ISU activity," the international federation said, including the Olympics, world championships and Grand Prix series.

Still, Plushenko wants to compete, his agent said. He is in Russia after spending the summer touring in Japan and will meet with his coach and federation officials to discuss his future, Ari Zakarian said. Plushenko turns 29 in November and has a long history of knee problems. But he ended a three-year retirement to skate in Vancouver, where he won the silver medal, and

then said he wanted to skate through the Sochi Games in 2014. Plushenko won the gold medal at the Turin Olympics and is also a three-time world champion.

He was included on the initial entry list for Cup of Russia when Grand Prix assignments were made in June. But Plushenko skated in two exhibitions the week after he withdrew from the worlds in March, putting him in conflict with the ISU's eligibility rules. ISU rules are designed to prevent skaters from claiming injuries in withdrawing from the world championships — or other major events — and then turning around and skating in moneymaking shows or exhibitions. Skaters are

allowed to perform in events not sanctioned by the ISU, but only if they've been given permission by their national federations.

Women's bronze medalist Joannie Rochette ran into a similar conflict over an exhibition program in tribute to her mother.

Rochette was asked to perform in her mother's honor March 19 at "Thin Ice," a made-for-TV show broadcast live on ABC. But the ISU initially said no because the Canadian had withdrawn from worlds, citing the physical and mental toll from her mother's sudden death in Vancouver. The ISU eventually made an exception because of the extreme circumstances. □

## Concussion debate highlights world hockey summit

TORONTO (AP)—One of hockey's top doctors warns of the danger of players returning too soon from head injuries.


Dr. Mark Aubry, the chief medical officer of the International Ice Hockey Federation, said recent studies and reports on the severity of concussions have heightened awareness.

"I think it makes us stand up ... and say, 'OK, what are we doing?'" Aubry said. "When is the number of concussions too many in allowing that young player to return to play?"

Aubry spoke Tuesday on the second day of the world hockey summit. He was joined by Philadelphia Flyers coach Peter Laviolette and Brendan Shanahan (notes), the NHL's vice president of hockey and business affairs.

Aubry has helped organize symposiums on concussions during his career. He said injuries

have risen significantly at the peewee level when many youngsters first experience bodychecking. "We're exposing these kids to an increased risk of injury at an age where I think we should still be talking about skill development and having fun," Aubry said. "That's where I think that hopefully things may change." The debate on when to allow bodychecking—or whether to have it at all—was one of the livelier subjects. Coaching styles, equipment changes and player safety concerns also were discussed. Steve Norris, a doctor who has worked with Hockey Canada the past 15 years, started the session by discussing athlete development and the behavior and growth of young players. Bob Boughner, president of the Ontario Hockey League's Windsor Spitfires, was not overly optimistic about immediate change. □




















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<b>GROWN UPS</b> daily: 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15 matinee: 12:00 - 2:30 late show: 11:45 	<b>GROWN UPS</b> daily: 4:00 - 6:30 matinee: 12:00 - 2:30 late show: 11:45 
<b>THE EXPENDABLES</b> daily: 6:00 - 8:30 matinee: 1:15 - 3:30 late show: 11:00 	<b>DESPICABLE ME 3D</b> daily: 5:15 matinee: 12:45 - 3:00 late show: 11:45 
<b>SALT</b> daily: 8:45 matinee: 11:00 late show: 11:00 	<b>SALT</b> daily: 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45 matinee: 12:00 late show: 12:00 
<b>DESPICABLE ME 3D</b> daily: 4:30 matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 late show: 11:15 	<b>THE OTHER GUYS</b> daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:00 matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:45 
<b>INCEPTION</b> daily: 4:45 - 8:00 matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:15 	<b>STEP UP 3D</b> daily: 7:30 - 9:45 matinee: 12:00 late show: 12:00 
<b>INCEPTION</b> daily: 8:00 matinee: 11:15 late show: 11:15 	

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# A down year for Tiger leads to parity on tour

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PARAMUS, New Jersey (AP) — The dominance of Tiger Woods becomes even more defined when he can't beat anyone at all.

In the years when he wasn't winning a major or three, Woods compensated by winning at least five times on the U.S. PGA Tour against some of the strongest fields on some of the toughest courses. He won 31 times and six majors in the previous five years.

The only time during that span that Woods did not win U.S. PGA Tour player of the year was in 2008, when he made it through only half the year until his knee gave out. Padraig Harrington captured the last two majors to win the award, although Woods still earned some consideration. He won four times in six starts, including a U.S. Open. The FedEx Cup playoffs get under way this week at The Barclays, and Woods is



**Tiger Woods points to his ball on the second hole during the final round of the PGA Championship golf tournament Sunday, Aug. 15, 2010, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.**

at No. 112 in the standings, sandwiched between Bob Estes and Cameron Beckman. Dominance has given way to parity.

Five players have multiple victories this year — Ernie Els, Jim Furyk, Steve Stricker, Justin Rose and Hunter Mahan — yet none of them has more than two wins, and none of them won a major.

Why has no one filled the void?

“That’s how good Tiger Wood is — that’s what I make of it,” Adam Scott said on Tuesday. Els has been leading the FedEx Cup standings since winning the Arnold Palmer Invitational in March. He begins the playoffs with only a 149-point lead over Stricker. A year ago, Woods had a 1,276-point lead over Stricker going into The Barclays.

“This is just an observation,” Zach Johnson said on Tuesday. “But I watched Greensboro for about six holes on Sunday and they showed the standings. I knew Ernie had been on top

forever, but he still is. The other years it seemed like it was so volatile that even I was at No. 1 for like a week. Now it’s all bunched up.”

Golf is bunched up at the moment, at least on the U.S. PGA Tour.

“No one has separated themselves,” Mahan said. “Tiger hasn’t won five times. You’ve got a bunch of guys who have won twice.”

In its first three years, the FedEx Cup has provided four great tournaments after the majors were over, and the list of winners backs that up — three wins for Woods; two apiece for Mickelson, Stricker, Vijay Singh and Camilo Villegas; and Heath Slocum as the outsider, but only after beating Woods, Stricker, Harrington and Els on the last hole. Even so, it had little bearing on anything except a bank account.

This year — thanks to Woods — it’s a little different.

The four playoff events over the next five weeks most likely will decide who was the best player on the U.S. PGA Tour this year. Not only is there no clear-cut favorite for player of the year, it’s hard to determine the front-runner.

“Ernie?” pondered Mahan, but only after taking several seconds of thought. “He’s leading the points race, right? And he won twice. And he was right up there in two majors.” Actually, only one major.

Els had a share of the lead on Sunday in the U.S. Open until he started dropping shots along the Pacific cliffs and never got them back. He wound up third, then missed the cut in the British Open and fizzled at the U.S. PGA Championship.

Winning the FedEx Cup might be all it takes for Els to be voted player of the year. Then again, it’s mathematically possible for him to do that without winning another tournament. Can a guy get voted best player with only two wins and no majors?

“If Phil wins, it’s got to be over,” Mahan said, continuing to work this out while speaking to no one in particular. □



**In this Feb. 15, 2008, file photo, Erica Blasberg walks up to the ninth green during the second round of the LPGA SBS Open golf tournament at Turtle Bay Resort in Kahuku, Hawaii. The Clark County, Nev., coroner’s office said Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010, that Blasberg died of suicide due to asphyxia, coupled with the presence of toxic levels of prescription medication in her system, including prescription headache, cough, pain and anti-anxiety medications. Blasberg died May 9 at her home in the suburban hills of Henderson, about 15 miles southeast of the Las Vegas Strip. The 25-year-old was found with a plastic bag over her head.**

*Associated Press*

## Coroner says LPGA golfer Blasberg death a suicide

JEFF WILSON

Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The Clark County coroner’s office ruled on Tuesday that 25-year-old professional golfer Erica Blasberg’s death was a suicide. Blasberg died on May 9 at her home in Henderson, about 15 miles (25 kilometers) southeast of the Las Vegas Strip. She was found with a plastic bag secured over her head. Henderson police said that while no foul play is suspected they have issued a misdemeanor arrest warrant for Dr. Thomas Hess on obstruction charges. Police said Hess, who discovered Blasberg’s body, removed items from the scene, including a suicide note. The contents of the note haven’t been disclosed. Hess turned himself into authorities, was booked into jail and released about 35 minutes after posting \$637 in bail Tuesday afternoon, Henderson police spokesman Keith Paul said. David Mincavage, an assistant city attorney in Henderson, said the nonviolent misdemeanor charges against Hess carry a maximum penalty of a \$1,000 fine and six months in jail.

Mincavage said he could not comment further on the case, and Paul declined to say whether additional charges were possible.

The coroner’s office said Blasberg died of suicide

due to asphyxia, coupled with the presence of toxic levels of prescription medication in her system, including prescription headache, cough, pain and anti-anxiety medications.

The drugs in Blasberg’s system included butalbital, temazepam, alprazolam, codeine, hydrocodone, and tramadol, according to the coroner. “While asphyxia was the primary cause of death, the presence of prescription drugs in Ms. Blasberg’s system was a significant factor,” Coroner Michael Murphy said.

Henderson police spokesman Keith Paul said authorities would contact Hess’ lawyer and likely allow the doctor to turn himself in because the charge is a nonviolent misdemeanor. But the spokesman refused to say if additional charges were possible. The death investigation was complicated, police said, because Hess admitted altering the scene — including the removal of the note indicating Blasberg took her own life — and he stopped cooperating with detectives. Hess hid the note and prescription medications in his vehicle.

The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners in Reno said Hess’ medical license is active and he has had no disciplinary action or pending complaints. He got his license to practice in Nevada in July 2003. □



*AL Roundup*

# Rangers lose no-hitter to Twins in the ninth

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Joe Mauer’s clean single to center field with one out in the ninth inning broke up the no-hit bid of four Texas Rangers pitchers .

The Rangers beat the Minnesota Twins 4-0 on Monday night in the sixth no-hitter this season broken up in the ninth inning. Starter Rich Harden was activated from the disabled list earlier in the day and he went 6 2-3 innings before being lifted after throwing 111 pitches. Matt Harrison got the final out of the seventh. Darren O’Day pitched the eighth and All-Star closer Neftali Feliz got one in the ninth before Mauer singled. Texas prevailed in the matchup of division leaders but fell two outs shy of its first no-hitter since Kenny Rogers’ perfect game against California on July 28, 1994.

## Rays 4, Angels 3

At Anaheim, California, B.J. Upton homered on the first pitch of the game from former Tampa Bay teammate Scott Kazmir and doubled home another run to help the Rays move into a tie with the New York Yankees atop the American League East standings.

The Rays’ win and New York’s 3-2 loss at Toronto left the teams with identical 77-48 records, tied for best in the majors.

James Shields (12-11) allowed eight hits and three runs — two earned — in six-plus innings, struck out 10 and walked one in his 144th career start, tying Kazmir for most in club history. Rafael Soriano struck out the side in the ninth to earn his 38th save in 40 chances.

Kazmir (8-11) gave up five hits and four runs in 5 1-3 innings, struck out four and walked four to fall to 1-6 in his last eight starts.

## Blue Jays 3, Yankees 2

At Toronto, Jose Bautista hit a two-run homer, then added a tiebreaking solo drive in the eighth inning for his 40th of the season, as Toronto beat New York.

It was the sixth multi-homer game of 2010 for Bautista, who leads the majors in home runs.

Bautista connected off right-hander David Robertson (2-4) in the eighth.

Scott Downs (5-5) pitched one inning for the win and Kevin Gregg finished in the ninth for his 28th save in 32 chances.

Blue Jays starter Brandon Morrow allowed two runs and four hits in six innings. He walked two and struck out 12.

## Red Sox 6, Mariners 3

At Boston, Marco Scutaro’s second two-run single gave Boston the lead for good and John Lackey pitched eight strong innings in a win over Seattle.

Adrian Beltre and J.D. Drew both had two singles for the Red Sox, who won their third straight after their most lopsided loss of the season last Friday.

Lackey (12-7) gave up three runs — two earned — and six hits, striking out 10 and walking two in his best start since he took a no-hitter into the eighth inning at Seattle on July 22.

## Tigers 12, Royals 3

At Detroit, Ryan Raburn drove in three runs and scored twice to help Detroit continue a strong homestand with a win over Kansas City.

Jhonny Peralta and Brandon Inge also drove in three runs for the Tigers, who are 4-0 since returning home and have outscored the opposition 31-6.

Jeremy Bonderman (7-9) got the win, ending a three-start losing streak by allowing two runs on eight hits in six innings.

Bruce Chen (8-7) lasted just 4 1-3 innings for Kansas City, allowing five runs on five hits and five walks.

**In other AL games it was Detroit 12, Kansas City 3; Toronto 3, N.Y. Yankees 2; Boston 6, Seattle 3; Texas 4, Minnesota 0; and Tampa Bay 4, L.A. Angels 3.** □



**Texas Rangers relief pitcher Darren O’Day uses his side throw delivery in the eighth inning of the baseball game against the Minnesota Twins in Arlington, Texas, Monday, Aug. 23, 2010. The Rangers won 4-0.**

*Associated Press*

# Damon stays in Detroit, nixes return to Red Sox

DETROIT — Johnny Damon is staying in Detroit.

The 36-year-old outfielder decided to pass up a chance to return to the Boston Red Sox, rejecting their waiver claim and choosing to remain with the Tigers.

“These guys really like me here,” Damon said Tuesday, adding he spoke to each of his teammates individually to be sure he was wanted in the Tigers’ clubhouse.

Damon was popular in Boston when he helped the Red Sox win the 2004 World Series to end an 86-year drought. With his long hair and beard, he was part of the group of Red Sox players who called themselves the “Idiots.”

He fell out of favor, however, with many Boston fans when he later became a free agent and joined the rival New York Yankees.

“Considering the buzz that Johnny created for many years here, one of the original ‘Idiots’ of the World Series champions here, I thought it would be a great idea. But sometimes the ideas of others are not the same as the person who actually has to be in the situation,” Red Sox outfielder Mike Cameron.

Damon’s contract gives him

veto power over trades to all but eight teams. Because the Red Sox weren’t one of those clubs, he was able to block the move.

Damon said he was leaning toward staying put from the beginning. He texted former Red Sox teammate Jason Varitek and talked to David Ortiz, and both tried to convince him to return to Boston.

“They told me they wanted a spark,” Damon said.

Said Varitek: “I reached out to him, as a friend, as a teammate, and ultimately, he’s obviously had some decisions to make.” “I can only speak for what Johnny has meant here and what he has done as a player and what he is as a teammate. He would have been a big addition to our team with what he can do,” he said.

The banged-up Red Sox began the day 5 1/2 games behind New York and Tampa Bay in the AL East. Detroit started 10 games behind Minnesota in the AL Central and far out of wild-card contention.

“This game’s tough enough and when you’re in a position and you’re in a city and you’re in a place where you want to be, a place where you’re happy, there’s no real reason



**In this photo taken Monday, Aug. 23, 2010, Detroit Tigers’ Johnny Damon sits on the bench against the Kansas City Royals during the first inning of a baseball game in Detroit.**

*Associated Press*

of doing that,” Boston closer Jonathan Papelbon said. “I’ve always admired Johnny since I came here in ‘05 and he was one of the players that took me under his wing and showed me the big leagues. I wish him nothing but the best.”

“I’m not surprised because he’s in a situation where he’s happy and if he’s happy, why not stay? If he’s not happy, obviously he would have left.”

Damon is hitting .272 with seven home runs and 41 RBIs in 111 games. This is his first season in Detroit.

“I feel like we’re not out of it yet,” he said. “At least we can make some kind of run.” □



## NL Roundup

# First wins for Coleman, Quade as Cubs top Nats 9-1

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mike Coleman, a rookie right-hander, took a one-hitter into the seventh inning as Chicago Cubs interim manager Quade had a successful debut Monday in a 9-1 victory over the Washington Nationals.

Making his second start and sixth major league appearance, Coleman (1-1) allowed one run and three hits with three strikeouts and two walks. He faced only three batters above the minimum until the seventh, when he gave up consecutive hits followed by Ivan Rodriguez's RBI groundout. Coleman collected his first major league hit, a single punched through a drawn-in infield in the fifth that also produced his first RBI.

## Rockies 5, Braves 4

At Denver, Todd Helton's first four-hit game in more than a year included the tiebreaking RBI single off Jonny Venters in the eighth inning that lifted Colorado to a win over Atlanta.

Helton singled over second base to score Carlos Gonzalez from second and make a winner of reliever Rafael Betancourt (4-1), who gave up the tying run in the top of the eighth.

Huston Street got the final three outs for his 11th save in 15 chances.

Helton, who has started to break out of a season-long slump this month, hadn't had a four-hit game since July 16, 2009, against San Diego.

## Cardinals 10, Pirates 2

At Pittsburgh, Albert Pujols hit a three-run home run one pitch after injured Pittsburgh starter Ross Ohlendorf was pulled during a four-run St. Louis first inning, as the Cardinals moved to within a game of the National League wild card lead.

Kyle Lohse (2-5), making his

second start since spending nearly three months on the disabled list with a right forearm injury, pitched five scoreless innings before giving up Garrett Jones' two-run homer in the sixth. Lohse was lifted one out later, but still won for the first time since May 17 against Washington.

Pujols had another big night, homering in his 10th game of the Cardinals' last 19 while adding a single and a double in five at-bats. Pujols has eight homers in 22 games against Pittsburgh since last season.

## Astros 3, Phillies 2

At Philadelphia, Brett Myers threw seven sharp innings against his former team, Carlos Lee hit a go-ahead two-run single in the eighth as Houston beat Philadelphia.

The wild card-leading Phillies lost for just the sixth time in their last 30 home games.

Pitching in a steady drizzle, Myers (9-7) gave up two runs and nine hits, striking out nine. Myers has pitched at least six innings in each of his 26 starts, tying Larry Dierker's franchise record. It's the longest streak to start a season since Curt Schilling had 35 straight in 2002.

## Giants 11, Reds 2

At San Francisco, Matt Cain ended a three-start winless stretch and Andres Torres hit a two-run homer as the San Francisco beat Cincinnati.

Aubrey Huff added a solo homer leading off the eighth. Huff, Pat Burrell and Freddy Sanchez all doubled in runs in the Giants' five-run first inning to knock Edinson Volquez (3-2) out after 2-3 of an inning for the shortest start of his career. Sanchez finished with a season-high four hits.

Cain (10-10) retired the final 14 batters he faced and

struck out the side in order in the seventh. He allowed two runs on five hits in eight innings, struck out seven and walked one.

Cincinnati also lost Jim Edmonds and Laynce Nix early to injuries.

**In other NL games it was, Chicago Cubs 9, Washington 1; Houston 3, Philadelphia 2; St. Louis 10, Pittsburgh 2; Colorado 5, Atlanta 4; and San Francisco 11, Cincinnati 2.** □

# F1 driver Hamilton fined for burnout in Melbourne street



McLaren Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain prepares for his first practice at the Hungaroring circuit outside Budapest, Hungary, Friday, July 30, 2010. The circuit will host the Hungarian Formula One Grand Prix, Sunday, Aug. 1, 2010.

*Associated Press.*

## NEIL FRANKLAND

AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Formula One star Lewis Hamilton has been fined 500 Australian dollars (\$445) and avoided conviction for doing a burnout outside the Australian Grand Prix circuit in March.

Hamilton, 25, did not appear at the Melbourne Magistrates' Court on Tuesday. His lawyer, Sandip Mukerjea, said Hamilton

was overseas but he would plead guilty to the charge of improper use of a motor vehicle.

Mukerjea said Hamilton had publicly apologized over the incident and suffered "embarrassment, humiliation and distress" after he was criticized in the media.

His lawyer said Hamilton wrote two letters to the court explaining why he could not be present on Tuesday. Hamilton is expected to compete in the Belgian Grand Prix this weekend.

Magistrate Clive Alsop said Hamilton was a role model for young people which put the responsibility on him to behave.

"This is about somebody in a responsible position behaving like a hoon," Alsop said. He said he would not record a conviction as it was the first offense of its kind by Hamilton.

Hamilton was charged in May after having his borrowed Mercedes impounded under Victoria state's so-called "hoon" laws on March 26. He was alleged to have intentionally spun and skidded his tires at the entrance to the Grand Prix track at Albert Park.

In the March 28 race, the McLaren driver started from 11th on the grid after a poor second qualifying session when he failed to make it into the top-10 shootout for pole.

Then, just when he looked like redeeming himself after maneuvering through the field, Hamilton was bumped off the track by Australian Mark Webber's Red Bull two laps from the end and finished sixth. □



Chicago Cubs manager Mike Quade (8) walks off the field with catcher Geovany Soto, left, and coach Alan Trammell (3) after the Cubs beat the Washington Nationals, 9-1, in their baseball game at Nationals Park in Washington, Monday, Aug. 23, 2010.

*Associated Press*





**FILE - In this June 10, 2010 file photo, actor Michael Douglas arrives at the AFI Lifetime Achievement Awards honoring Mike Nichols, presented by TV Land at Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City, Calif.**

(AP Photo/Chris Pizzello, file)

**By JENNIFER PELTZ,**  
Associated Press Writer  
**NEW YORK** — Michael Douglas' return to his Academy Award-winning "Wall Street" role also spawned a legal sequel to his decade-old divorce.

## Douglas, ex clashing over 'Wall Street' cash in NY

Lawyers representing the actor and ex-wife Diandra Douglas tangled in a New York court Tuesday over her claim that she's entitled to half his earnings from "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps," set to open Sept. 24.

The dispute has featured accusations of avarice on both sides and an unusually detailed look at Hollywood-style divorce.

The couple's 23-year marriage ended in 2000. He's now married to Oscar-winning actress Catherine Zeta-Jones. The former couple's multimillion-dollar divorce gives Diandra Douglas the right to share in proceeds from spinoffs and other projects related to work Michael Douglas did while they were married.

That, her camp says, should include director Oliver Stone's "Wall Street" follow-up, in which Michael Douglas

reprises and updates his Oscar-winning role as Gordon Gekko, the take-no-prisoners financier whose declaration that "greed is good" became either a slogan or an epithet for the 1980s, depending on one's perspective.

But Michael Douglas' lawyer says his ex is misinterpreting the agreement, and it doesn't apply to the "Wall Street" sequel. It wasn't on the horizon when the two split, and he didn't then have so much as a guarantee that he'd be in a sequel if one were ever made, said his lawyer, Marilyn B. Chinitz.

Since their divorce, Diandra Douglas has made \$6.3 million from her stake in residual proceeds from other past projects, Chinitz said.

"When does it stop? ... She's not Mrs. Michael Douglas" anymore, Chinitz told a Manhattan judge Tuesday. "It's enough. It's time for Ms.

Douglas to move on and let Mr. Douglas move on and enjoy his life, without having to concern himself with someone trying to claw back moneys that they're not entitled to."

Diandra Douglas' lawyer says her client isn't money-hungry and isn't clinging to her ex-husband's coattails.

"She has her own identity, and she's proud of it," said her lawyer, Nancy Chemtob. "My client is not greedy. The exact opposite is true. Mr. Douglas is seeking to shirk his financial responsibility that was entered into when he signed this contract."

Michael Douglas' side also says the dispute belongs in Santa Barbara, Calif., where the couple hammered out a divorce agreement so extensive that the particulars are recorded in an hours-long videotape made before a judge, according to Chinitz.

Diandra Douglas chose to

pursue the case in New York, where she and the actor both have homes.

Neither Douglas was in court Tuesday. State Supreme Court Justice Matthew F. Cooper didn't issue a ruling or set a timeframe for one.

Insights into the former couple's life together were bared earlier this year, when their son, Cameron, faced sentencing after pleading guilty to a federal drug charge for dealing methamphetamine from a trendy Manhattan hotel. In a letter to his son's judge, Michael Douglas described their union as a "bad marriage."

Both parents were in court when Cameron Douglas, 31, was sentenced in April to five years in prison.

Michael Douglas, 65, was recently diagnosed with a tumor in his throat. He's doing well and feeling optimistic, Chinitz said. □

## Trial begins for actress accused of sham marriage



**FILE - This Oct. 15, 2009 file photo shows singer Fernanda Romero arriving at the 'Los Premios MTV 2009' in Universal City, Calif.**

(AP Photo/Chris Pizzello, File)

**By GREG RISLING,**  
Associated Press Writer

**LOS ANGELES** — A Mexican-born actress and her musician husband lied about their marriage to immigration officials so she could stay in the U.S., a federal prosecutor told prospective jurors Tuesday. In his opening statement, Special Assistant U.S. Attorney James Left showed a picture of Fernanda Romero and Kent Ross on their wedding day but said the appearance was deceptive.

"There was a real ceremony but nothing else about it is real," Left said. "It was a sham marriage."

Romero, a singer, actress and model who has attained moderate fame in her homeland, and Ross, a musician and manager of a pizza delivery business, have each pleaded not guilty to charges of marriage fraud and making false statements.

If convicted, they could each face a maximum prison sentence of five years.

The couple sat next to each other wearing black suits and wedding rings on their left forefingers.

Prosecutors claimed that since their nuptials in June 2005, they have maintained separate homes, dated other people and repeatedly lied on immigration forms and to federal agents about their relationship.

Left said testimony will be presented from people who say Romero and Ross told them the marriage was a fraud.

The government claims Ross was paid \$5,000 to marry Romero so she could obtain permanent residency, an assertion defense attorneys deny.

Defense attorneys said the couple has an unconventional yet passionate relationship and are still married. Attorney Vicki Podberesky showed jurors several photos of Romero and Ross together, describing them as "looking like a young couple in love."

Podberesky said the

government's case stemmed from a spurned lover of Romero who became angry and made the allegation of the false marriage when she tried to break off the affair. Prosecutors said the photographs of Romero and Ross were staged. When agents visited both of their homes in October 2007, neither had any photos of each other on display, prosecutors said.

Marriage fraud cases are often handled in administrative immigration proceedings, but prosecutors decided to pursue criminal charges against Romero and Ross because there was overwhelming evidence the marriage was fake.

Romero was a member of the Mexican pop group Fryzzby and had a bit role in the 2009 film "Drag Me to Hell." She has been living in the U.S. off-and-on for a decade.

In an unusual move, opening statements were delivered before a jury was selected. The trial is expected to last four days. □

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## BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

# Home sales plunge 27 pct. to lowest in 15 years



A home is seen for sale in Springfield, Ill., Monday, Aug. 23, 2010. Tuesday's report from the National Association of Realtors about sales of previously occupied homes is expected to show sales plunged in July.

(AP Photo/Seth Perlman)

By ALAN ZIBEL  
J.W. ELPHINSTONE,  
AP Real Estate Writers

WASHINGTON — Sales of previously occupied homes plunged last month to the lowest level in 15 years, despite the lowest mortgage rates in decades and bargain prices in many areas.

July's sales fell by more than 27 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.83 million, the National Association of Realtors said Tuesday. It was the largest monthly drop on records dating back to 1968, and sharp declines were recorded in all regions of the country.

The plunge in home sales also magnified fears about the broader economy.

"The housing market is undermining the already faltering wider economic recovery," said Paul Dales, U.S. economist with Capital Economics. "With the increasingly inevitable double-dip in prices yet to come, things could yet get a lot worse."

Sales were particularly weak among homes in the lower-

to mid-priced ranges. For example, in the Midwest, homes priced between \$100,000 and \$250,000 tumbled nearly 47 percent.

The weakness follows a strong spring, when now-expired government tax credits sparked sales, especially among first-time buyers of lower-priced homes.

The tax credits caused many of those buyers to speed up their home purchases. Sales have weakened since the credits expired on April 30.

As sales have slowed, the inventory of unsold homes on the market grew to nearly 4 million in July. That's a 12.5 month supply at the current sales pace, the highest level in more than a decade. It compares with a healthy level of about six months.

One reason the market is hurting is that buyers and sellers are in a standoff over prices.

Many sellers are reluctant to lower their prices. And buyers are hesitating because they think home prices haven't bottomed out.

Laurie Salaman has been

trying to sell her home in New York City for a year so she can move to the suburbs. She's had no offers, even after cutting her listing price on the three-bedroom Bronx home from \$475,000 to \$449,900.

She notes that she has upgraded the kitchen and bathrooms, refinished the basement and put in new decks and patios. Her goal is to take about \$100,000 from the sale and put it toward the purchase of the new house. She said she won't lower her price any further.

"That's my bottom price," said Salaman, 55. "If I don't get that price, then I will hold off until the market gets a little better," she said.

The housing market is also being hampered by the weakening economic recovery. Unemployment remains stuck at 9.5 percent and many potential buyers worry they might not have a job to pay the mortgage.

Prices have fallen in part because foreclosures are running about 10 times higher than before the housing bust. Though the average rate for a 30-year fixed mortgage has sunk to 4.42 percent, many people can't qualify because banks have tightened their lending standards.

Home sales picked up in the spring when the government was offering tax credits. But sales have sputtered since the tax credits expired.

The drop in July's sales was led by 35 percent plunge in the Midwest. Sales were down 30 percent in the Northeast, 25 percent in the West and 23 percent in the South.

The median sale price was \$182,600, up 0.7 percent from a year ago, but down 0.2 percent from June. □



In this Aug. 11, 2010 photograph, specialists gather at a post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stock futures are retreating Tuesday, Aug. 24, following the lead of overseas markets as investors worldwide continue to worry about the pace of a global recovery.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

## Stocks drop after sharp fall in July home sales

By STEPHEN BERNARD,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Stocks fell Tuesday after another disappointing report on the housing market renewed worries about the economy. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 97 points in late afternoon trading after news that sales of previously occupied homes fell last month to their lowest level in 15 years.

The Dow briefly dipped below 10,000 for the first time in seven weeks and was down as much as 183 points earlier in the day before paring its losses. Investors seeking refuge from the latest stock swings piled back into Treasuries, sending interest rates lower. The yield on the two-year Treasury note touched another record low.

Global markets fell sharply. Japanese stocks led the way lower, falling more than 1 percent as the yen hit a fresh 15-year high against the dollar. Japan's economy relies heavily on exports, so a stronger yen hurts the profits of major Japanese companies. Stocks have been sliding in recent days as investors focus on signs that economic growth is slowing. A new wave of corporate dealmaking gave stocks a temporary boost Monday, but those gains quickly faded.

The National Association of Realtors said sales of previously occupied homes plunged 27 percent in July to an annual rate of 3.83 million, the lowest rate in 15 years. That's much worse than the 4.7 million estimate from economists polled by Thomson Reuters. The 27 percent drop from the previous month was the biggest since record-keeping began in 1968.

Home sales have tumbled since a homebuyer tax credit expired at the end of April, despite mortgage rates falling to record lows. A stubbornly high unemployment rate of 9.5 percent has been keeping home sales down, and banks have also been cautious in making new loans.

"Without a boost in job creation, (buyers) just won't have the confidence to step in and buy a new home," David Katz, principal at Weiser Capital Management said.

In afternoon trading, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 97.33, or 1.0 percent, to 10,076.48. □



**By: Dr Carlos Viana**

According to legend, our sister island of Curaçao, whose name is the same as the Portuguese word for “cure”, was founded by Portuguese crew members from the ships of Christopher Columbus. The sailors who were dying of scurvy asked to be dropped off on the nearest land. Intending to die a horrible death from the dreaded disease, the men were dropped on an island as an alternative to dying at sea and being fed to the sharks. During his third voyage to the new world, Columbus stopped at the same island and, to his surprise, found his men had not perished, but had regained their health. In honor of this miracle Columbus named this island “the healing place”, or Curaçao.

Scurvy, the infamous disease that afflicted many sailors during the Age of Exploration is a horrible way to die. The word comes from Middle English “scurfy”, which means having scaly or shredded dry skin, such as dandruff and it means mean tempered. Interestingly, historical literature is full of descriptions of “scurfy sailors” who were, yes you guessed it, mean tempered with dry scaly skin, and lots of dandruff. Today, scurvy is one of the most serious diseases affecting teenagers, smokers and alcoholics. It is a deficiency disease that results from insufficient intake of vitamin C, which is necessary for good skin, bone, and other connective tissues production. The scientific name of vitamin C, ascorbic acid, is derived from the Latin name of scurvy,

# The Healing Place

scorbutus. Scurvy leads to the formation of liver spots on the skin, spongy gums, and bleeding from all mucous membranes. A person with the ailment looks pale, feels depressed, and is partially immobilized. As the disease progresses symptoms which develop are anemia, bleeding skin and gums, deterioration of muscle and joints, weight loss, open, oozing wounds, loss of teeth and, finally, death.

Unlike most mammals, humans do not have the ability to make our own vitamin C. Therefore, we must obtain vitamin C through our diet. Vitamin C is found in citrus fruits such as oranges, limes, and grapefruit, and vegetables including tomatoes, green pepper, potatoes and many others. However, vitamin C is easily damaged during the food preparation stage, such as during chopping, exposure to air, cooking, boiling, and being submerged in water. There is some question if today’s foods have enough Vitamin C to meet our health requirements. Additionally, many people do not consume the recommended five servings of fruits and vegetables daily. Therefore, I recommend dietary supplementation be a daily routine.

Vitamin C is an antioxidant, which means it protects body cells from the damaging effects of oxygen. In your body, vitamin C has many useful functions such as building the support of skin, bones, and joints; increasing the absorption of iron, to

help people with anemia; protecting essential nutrients from oxidation, helping improve allergies, asthma, and immune function. It also helps prevent skin bruising and bleeding gums. Vitamin C has been shown to reduce risk of stroke and heart attack.

You can think of vitamin C as a human “magnetic vacuum cleaner” that helps the body scoop up and get rid of dangerous toxins, viruses, and bacteria. It is also a known anti-inflammatory and muscle relaxant, helping to reduce feelings of pain and stress. Vitamin C may also increase alertness, increase energy levels, increase mental clarity, provide better lung capacity, help lower blood pressure, increase good cholesterol and help to lower bad cholesterol.

Cardiovascular diseases, heart disease and stroke, are the leading cause of death in individuals with diabetes. Diabetes is a condition of increased oxidative stress, for which you take antioxidants like vitamin C. A 16-year study of 85,000 women, found that vitamin C supplement use was associated with significant reductions in the risk of coronary heart disease.

As a certified clinical nutritionist I prefer natural L-ascorbic acid, which is the scientific name for vitamin C. Additionally, I always try to recommend a vitamin C supplement that also contains bioflavonoids. Bioflavonoids are a class of water-soluble plant pigments that are often

found in vitamin C-rich fruits and vegetables, especially citrus fruits that work together with vitamin C.

People with type A and AB blood types or very sensitive stomachs might find regular vitamin C gives them heartburn. Therefore, I recommend they use vitamin C in a mineral ascorbate form such as Ester C which is less acidic than ascorbic acid. Some people find them less irritating to the gastrointestinal tract than ascorbic acid or regular vitamin C.

A number of drugs are known to lower vitamin C levels, requiring an increase in its intake. Estrogen-containing contraceptives, birth control pills are known to lower vitamin C levels. Aspirin can lower vitamin C levels if taken frequently. Get The Point! Severe vitamin C deficiency has been known for many centuries as the potentially fatal disease, scurvy. By the late 1700’s the British navy was aware that scurvy could be cured by eating oranges and limes, even though vitamin C would not be isolated until the early 1930’s. By the way, Columbus’ men had miraculously recovered by eating some of Curacao’s island fruits. The same healing fruits we have here in Aruba, our lime, or as it is locally called “lamoenchi.” Vitamin C is not merely a remedy to take when you’re feeling a cold coming on. There have been over 100,000 studies done to support vitamin C supplementation and its benefits in overall health. Call to make an appointment for a personalized nutritional plan



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CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio (The Barefoot Doctor) & TV show (“Salud, Vitalidad y Dinamismo” presenta pa Dr. Viana tur Diaranson na ATV 15 durante Noticia Awenochi) writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, (Monday’s: Noord, Bubali 11M) TEL: 585-1270 FAX: 585-4789, Web Sight: [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com)

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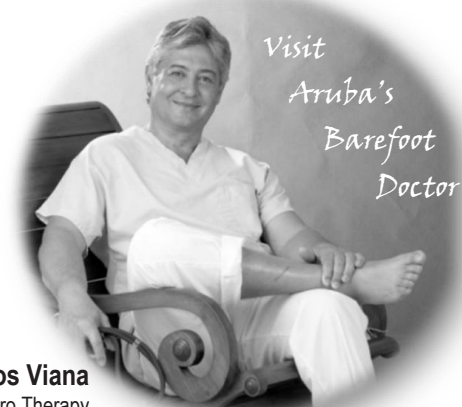
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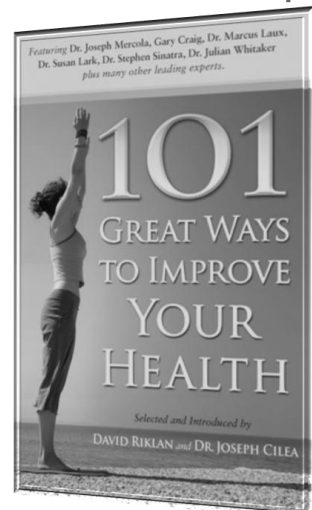
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# Johnson & Johnson gets FDA warning on marketing

By LINDA A. JOHNSON,  
AP Business Writer

TRENTON, NJ. – A Johnson & Johnson business that makes joint replacements has been warned by the Food and Drug Administration that it is illegally marketing two products.

The FDA notified Johnson & Johnson's DePuy Orthopaedics Inc. that it is selling one product that was never approved for sale and is selling another product for uses that have not been specifically approved.

In a letter to the company, the FDA wrote that DePuy is marketing its Corail Hip System for two unapproved uses, and promoting those uses in an online brochure.

The agency also stated that it never approved the TruMatch Personalized Solution System. It uses software and high-tech CT scanning technology to create a detailed, 3-D view of a patient's knee so a surgeon can properly position a knee implant.

The FDA has told DePuy, which is based in Warsaw, Ind., to stop selling the hip system for unapproved uses and to provide information that would be needed for the agency to approve the TruMatch system.

"The FDA will evaluate the information you submit and decide whether your product may be legally marketed," stated the letter.

In a statement, DePuy said it is "reviewing the letter to understand the FDA's concerns and will respond to their request for information."

The FDA's warning letter, addressed to DePuy President David Floyd, was posted on the agency's website on Tuesday. The letter is dated Aug. 19. It is signed by Timothy A. Ulatowski, director of the Office of Compliance in the FDA center that oversees medical devices.

It states that the Corail Hip System is approved for total hip replacement in patients with six specific types of damage to the hip. But a brochure on DePuy website claims the system can be used for treating two other conditions, according to the FDA.

On Monday, Johnson & Johnson issued its ninth product recall in a year, this one covering millions of 1 Day Acuvue TruEye contact lenses sold in Japan and two dozen other countries in Asia and Europe. The recall followed complaints from customers in Japan of an unusual stinging or pain when inserting the lenses. Johnson & Johnson's Vision Care Inc. business blamed the failure of manufacturing equipment that rinses off substances used in producing the lenses.

Johnson & Johnson already is under scrutiny by FDA officials, Congress and federal prosecutors over eight previous U.S. recalls of nonprescription medicines since last September. Those included millions of bottles of Tylenol, other pain relievers and cold medicines for children and adults.

The recalls have involved problems ranging from bacterial contamination and a nauseating smell on containers to drugs that may have the wrong amount of active ingredient and liquid medicines that may contain tiny metal shavings.

In midday trading, Johnson & Johnson shares fell 78 cents to \$58.08, while health-care stocks and the broader markets were all down.

Johnson & Johnson is based in New Brunswick, N.J. □

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# Tax Reform: These Small Steps Could Help Deficit, Economy

By Chris Farrell

Is the American system of taxation nearing a watershed moment? It doesn't seem like it, considering the political brawl in Washington over the soon-to-be-expired 2001 and 2003 tax cuts passed during the Bush era. Lawmakers have known for the past several years that, if they did nothing, the tax breaks would automatically end on Dec. 31, 2010. Now, Washington is scrambling as the deadline looms and the economy sputters.

The Obama Administration is pushing to keep all the cuts except those for individuals making more than \$200,000 and couples earning more than \$250,000. Some congressional Democrats would like to let the package expire. Congressional Republicans are rallying around the policy of either extending the cuts or making them permanent.

At first glance, what we're witnessing is the same old, same old about taxes in Washington. The pitched battles between supply-siders and advocates of raising taxes on the rich mostly lead to tax cuts here and tax hikes there. And that tax approach over the past quarter-century past has created a bewildering maze of exemptions, exclusions, deductions, credits, carve-outs, loopholes, income phase-ins, and income phase-outs. Economists, let alone taxpayers, despair at the waste from the billions of hours and billions of dollars spent on filing, administrative, and compliance costs.

Despite unanimity about the problem and a brief moment of improvement under President Reagan in 1986, the tax code continues to accumulate ever more complexity. Reform is hard since far too many industries and individuals actually support the current setup, either because reform would hurt their pocketbooks by removing things like mortgage-interest deductibility or because they are adroit at ordering their finances around existing incentives (and disincentives). Washington lawmakers from both parties like handing out tax goodies to favored constituents in return for power and votes.

**Four>**

That said, major reforms have swept the nation before. Specifically, the tax historian Elliott Brownlee argues in *Social Philosophy and Tax Regimes in the United States, 1763 to the Present* that there have been four major shifts in U.S. tax policy. The turning points were all associated with fiscal crisis: the Civil War, World War I, the Great Depression, and World War II. The common thread is that each crisis forced the government to come up with another way to raise money.

For example, the post-Civil War federal government largely relied on steep tariffs and excise duties on such items as alcohol and tobacco. The flaws of the system were increasingly apparent in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but the trade disruptions of World War I forced an overhaul. The tax regime that held sway from 1916 to 1931 was dominated by new corporate and individual income taxes, as well as excise levies on consumer goods.

"Ultimately, durable tax reform happens when it must, not when it should. It happens when old taxes just can't keep up anymore -- not with fiscal demands, not with changes in the economy," writes Joseph J. Thorndike, of the Tax History Project at Tax Analysts, a nonprofit publisher of tax information.

**Inadequate>**

The cumulative crises of the past decade have shown that the current tax regime isn't up to the funding task. Following the tragedy of 9/11, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the fallout in financial markets from the September 2008 bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers Holdings, the federal government's obligations have greatly expanded. Yes, much of the federal government's red ink reflects the fiscal pinch from the worst downturn since the 1930s. Eventually, an economic recovery will boost the tax coffers and some of the costs associated with war, bank bailouts, and spending to jump-start the economy will dissipate, too.

But entitlement spending is growing along with an aging population. Economists Alan Auerbach of the University of California at Berkeley and William Gale of the Brookings Institution calculate that if the economy reaches full employment in 2014 and stays there for the rest of the decade, staying the course with current fiscal policies would lead to a national debt in the range of 90 percent of gross domestic product by 2020. (The Congressional Budget Office says the debt will reach 62 percent of GDP by yearend; it was nearly 35 percent of GDP in 2000.)

That said, Washington seems spent after the political fights over fiscal stimulus, health care, and financial-services reform. With midterm elections coming in November, it's hardly an auspicious time for grand negotiation and bold bargains. But in the absence of consensus on a massive overhaul of the U.S. tax regime, there are still smaller steps lawmakers could take that might prove more politically palatable.

**Starting>**

For instance, a growing number of tax mavens believe a Value Added Tax, or VAT, is needed in the U.S. to restore fiscal sanity. While that is not likely to happen anytime soon, there are a number of steps shy of a VAT-like initiative that could move the country toward a healthier tax regime. Just ask James Poterba, head of the National Bureau of Economic Research and an economist at MIT. He headed up the 2005 White House task force on tax reform. The commission came up with several good blueprints that deserve a hearing. The starting point: trading for a broader tax base in return for lower tax rates. In other words, start going down the list of tax deductions and tax credits, phase-ins and phase-outs, and make a concerted effort to broaden the income tax base by eliminating as many of these tax twists and turns as possible.

However, Poterba notes that each loophole has fierce defenders. So, rather than single out specific deductions for limitation or elimination, it might be more politically expedient to adopt an across-the-board limit on tax credits and deductions to, say, a maximum rate of 25 percent. It's a good starting point. A practical guide that shares Poterba's spirit of simplicity while recognizing the importance of trade-offs is by Joel Slemrod, professor at the Stephen M. Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. In "My Beautiful Tax Reform," Slemrod takes comfort in the wisdom of Albert Einstein, who cautioned that "everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler."

Another potential way to get the tax reform process going comes from Andrew Samwick, economist at Dartmouth College. He went to the President's Council of Economic Advisers in July 2003 and served as its chief economist for a year. He suggests leaving the income tax system alone for the moment. Instead, he would raise the federal gasoline tax and use the proceeds to reduce the deficit or temporarily offset a portion of the payroll tax. At a very basic level, you get less of what you tax and more of what you don't. "We get less congestion, emissions, and pollution," he says. "We get more payroll."

The best hope for jump-starting the reform conversation may be President Obama's bipartisan deficit commission. Its report is due on Dec. 1, and a tax overhaul plan will be critical if the commission wants to come up with a genuine blueprint for restoring the nation's long-term fiscal soundness over time. With the midterm elections in the rearview mirror by then, perhaps Congress will become more attentive to the urgent task of fixing the broken U.S. tax system. □



Mientras inicia proceso para largo rescate

# Socorristas preparan juegos y apoyo psicológico para mineros atrapados en Chile

MINERA SAN JOSE, Chile (Reuters) - Una gran máquina perforadora comenzó a instalarse el martes para rescatar a 33 mineros atrapados desde hace 19 días en una mina en Chile, mientras socorristas preparan juegos y apoyo psicológico para una espera que podría extenderse hasta Navidad.

La unidad principal de la máquina Raise Borer llegó al mediodía a la accidentada mina de cobre y oro San José, en el norte del país, pero las labores de perforación de un pozo de una longitud de 700 metros de profundidad y unos 66 centímetros de diámetro comenzarían recién al final de esta semana.

El jefe de los sondeos, André Sougarret, indicó que está previsto que antes del fin de semana concluya la instalación de la máquina proveniente de la división Andina del gigante Codelco, el mayor productor de cobre del mundo. Y como se estima que las tareas de rescate demorarán entre tres y cuatro meses, un equipo multidisciplinario planea

actividades para contener a los mineros en la espera. "Empieza una fase de mantención en la cual hay apoyo psicológico cotidiano", dijo el ministro de Salud Jaime Mañalich desde el campamento improvisado en el lugar del accidente.

"Va a haber toda una rutina de trabajos por turnos, rutinas de juegos, rutinas de manejo sanitario, de evaluación de salud, de manejo de basura, de ropa", agregó. Los juegos podrían ser de cartas o dominó, explicó a Reuters el ministro de Minería, Laurence Golborne, quien indicó que por la tarde el presidente Sebastián Piñera se comunicará con los mineros. Tras completar exitosamente el domingo la fase de búsqueda, luego de que una sonda llegara muy cerca del refugio, brigadas de rescate mantienen sus trabajos de asistencia a los mineros atrapados que, en contactos a través de mensajes y de breves comunicaciones, han dicho que se encuentran bien. □



Lilianette Ramirez, esposa del minero Mario Gómez, aparece en las afueras de la mina San José, cerca de Copiapó, Chile, el martes 24 de agosto de 2010. (AP Photo/Roberto Candia)

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